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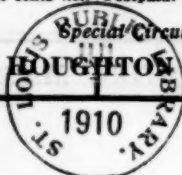
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A LIBRARY SUGGESTION.

The chief factor in recent library development, viewed from the standpoint of material equipment and the extension of facilities for reading, is undoubtedly that provided by the unexampled benefactions of Mr. Carnegie. Like all good works, this particularly good work has been met in some quarters with grudging acceptance and ill-natured criticism, but its positive beneficence is not to be minimized merely because some captious people think the money might have been put to better uses, or because some penurious communities resent the condition of maintenance wisely attached to Mr. Carnegie's gift of library buildings. Those who take exception to the largess thus generously bestowed usually do so upon one or the other of the above grounds, and their fault-finding, while it may properly take the form of an occasional pleasant jest, should excite only indignation when it is put forward in the form of serious reproach.

The objection of the sentimentalist, to whom any benefaction that is not a charity is relatively ill-advised, may be the product of a warm heart but is not the conclusion of a clear intelligence. The fundamental principle of all wisely-directed effort to improve social conditions and provide real benefits to mankind is that consideration for the future is more important than concern for the present. Charities we must have, and do have in abundance; most people, in fact, who conjoin wealth with philanthropic purpose, first turn their thoughts toward soup-kitchens and hospitals and asylums. The appeal of suffering humanity is so urgent that comparatively few philanthropists can resist it, and devote their gifts to the removal of the underlying causes of present misery. With this emotional bias so widely prevalent, charity is at all times sure of getting even a larger share than it should of the total of wealth that is available for the amelioration of the conditions of existence. It takes both foresight and resolution to apply to the processes of gradual regeneration the means whereby many immediate needs might be speedily relieved. And yet nothing is more certain than the fact that direct

charity accomplishes little for the future, and that it tends to magnify the very evils which it would diminish. On the other hand, increased provision for education (and the library is second in importance only to the school as a means of education) is a sure means of helping the coming generation to a better footing than the present generation occupies, and the judgment that makes it is of all judgments the best-considered.

Glancing at the other of the two chief criticisms of Mr. Carnegie's library gifts, it is easy to see that, just as no individual likes to have his philanthropies forced, there are sure to be many communities that will receive grudgingly a gift to which is attached the condition of a continuing contribution on their own part. The community that adopts the *farà da se* attitude, and courteously declines the offered gift, may have our respect, but hardly the community that accepts it, and then grumbles about the new tax which it imposes. The acceptance, if made at all, should be made in good faith, and include an acceptance of the responsibility; indeed, a gift that does not bring with it a responsibility is not likely to accomplish a useful purpose in any direction, philanthropic or other. Hence we think that Mr. Carnegie's condition is as wise as his primary aim of supplying the multitude with good reading; and if the possession of one of his library buildings puts a little moral pressure upon the town that gets it, the pressure is of the right sort and in the right direction. Communities, no less than the individual members of which they are composed, are apt to be made the better by the spur of a little compulsion. This principle, which is the foundation of our political existence, always makes for stability of character and aim. It is always the part of wisdom to guard against temporary inclinations and the impulses of the moment.

We did not, however, start out with the intention of making an elaborate defence of the Carnegie libraries, which may well give mute but eloquent testimony for themselves, needing no apologist. What we really had in mind was a suggestion concerning the books that go into them. It is, in brief, that the donor should supplement his gift of buildings by occasional gifts of books that are worthy of being placed in the collections, and that would otherwise not be likely to be added to many of them. The purpose of such gifts should be not so much that of swelling the ranks on the shelves as of encouraging authorship in certain needed

directions. Most of the books that go into a library of moderate size are fairly popular publications, or publications of recognized standing, that may very well be left to make their own way. On the other hand, there are many works of high character that are too narrow in their appeal to belong to the average public library on any terms. But besides the books of these two kinds there are others occupying a sort of intellectual borderland between popular writing and the literature of specialism, that find the struggle for existence difficult, and that would be mightily encouraged by a plan that should seek them out, give them a helping hand, and lift them just above the margin of commercial possibility. Books of this kind, that have somehow failed to get adequate attention from reviewers, and yet are highly meritorious, and would prove their usefulness in the small library, exist in considerable numbers, and it would be a praiseworthy act to make some sort of systematic provision for putting them within the reach of more readers than they are likely to attract by their own unaided merits.

To put the case a little more concretely, let us assume that Mr. Carnegie has a thousand public libraries in full operation. Let us then suppose that he entrusts to a committee of experts the duty of examining the current literary output, and of recommending, from time to time, such books as are found to be notable for sound workmanship and educational value, but which, for some reason or other, do not seem to be getting the support which they deserve. Books answering to this description are all the time making their modest *début*, finding a few appreciative readers, and then disappearing from view without reaching more than a small part of what should be their real public. It is accident or caprice (to say nothing of advertising) that largely determines the popularity of a book. Of two biographies, the one sincere and painstaking, the other careless and sensational, the latter will have the satisfactory sale. Of two histories, the one scholarly and the other flashy, the former will not be the popular favorite. Of two collections of essays, the one frothy and the other clarified, the latter will suffer neglect. Of two volumes of verse, the one slangy or sentimental, the other expressing high ideals of beauty and conduct, the latter will not find enough purchasers to cover the cost of its manufacture. Now our suggestion is that in each of these typical cases, and in other similar cases, our supposed committee should discover the

deserving book — the literary Cinderella — recommend it for purchase, and that straightway an order for a thousand copies, one for each of the thousand libraries, should go to the publisher.

The sale of a thousand copies more or less is a trifling matter for the novel of the hour, but it is a matter of life and death for many a good book. Moreover, the *cachet* given a book by thus singling it out for approval would further advance its fortunes. "Approved by the Carnegie Committee" might come to mean in this country what "Crowned by the Academy" means in France; no guaranty, perhaps, of any very large demand, but certainly the stamp of a distinction that would be highly prized. The system might profitably be extended to manuscripts, since the sale of a thousand copies secured in advance, with the knowledge of their distribution to a thousand libraries, would insure the printing of almost any kind of a manuscript that might otherwise have to go begging for a publisher. The successful working of the plan which we have proposed would, of course, depend upon the good judgment of the committee entrusted with the delicate task of selection, and upon the authority with which it could appeal to the public. Probably the safest course that could be taken would be to place the whole matter in the hands of the National Institute of Arts and Letters, with full power to examine and award.

The cost of putting this plan into effect would not be great. In comparison with Mr. Carnegie's huge expenditures for library buildings, it would be inconsiderable. Fifty thousand dollars a year applied to this purpose would enrich neither publisher nor author beyond the dreams of avarice, but it would provide for the publication or the encouragement of perhaps fifty volumes of good literature upon conditions that would at least protect the former from loss and cheer the heart of the latter in better than pecuniary fashion. It would also add fifty books to the shelves of every library in the Carnegie system; and they would be books profitable for instruction and the elevation of taste. Objectors will doubtless urge that our suggestion is too artificial and academic, to which we can reply only by saying that we believe in the academic idea (despite its "forty-first chairs" and other miscalculations), and that the policy of encouraging good work by artificial stimuli has on the whole thoroughly justified itself in the annals of mankind.

GLEANINGS FROM THE LIBRARY PRESS OF 1908.*

The most significant change in the character of the professional library press during the past few years, at least in England and America, is the particular emphasis laid on questions of Extension, — how to reach the various classes of readers, how to give the library its proper place in the community, and the relegation to the background of the more technical questions of cataloguing and classification, the disappearance even of the minutiae of library technique, the renewed emphasis on the book itself. (See in this connection Mr. Koopman's articles in "Public Libraries": "Lest We Forget, in the Multitude of Books, the Few Great Books.") The question of open access to the shelves, once vehemently discussed on both sides of the Atlantic, is the subject of only four papers, two American and two English, none of them particularly significant. The fiction problem, though the subject of only two or three papers, still attracts, and the last word has not yet been said; the same is true of the problem of the children, which seems on the way to be relegated to its proper dimensions. Cooperation in cataloguing having been solved, at least in America and Germany, the larger question of inter-library loans enters the field again. The interest in foreign affairs is reasonably lively in this country and in Germany, while England takes on the rôle of greater self-satisfaction, which is shown in the few cases where American conditions are incidentally touched upon.

* The following survey of the main articles in two American library periodicals ("Library Journal" and "Public Libraries"), two English ("Library Association Record" and "Library World"), and two German ("Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen" and "Blätter für Volksbibliotheken und Lesehallen"), during the past year brings out some interesting matters about the tendencies and activities in the library field of the three countries.

Questions of *Administration* (including such questions as *Open Shelves*, *Specialization*, *Circulation*, as well as the subject of *Buildings*). L. J.: 15—P. L.: 7—L. A. R.: 5—L. W.: 7—Z. f. B.: 5—B. f. V.: 2—

Extension, Relation to readers and to public bodies, Cooperation with other institutions as well as with other libraries, work with children. L. J.: 25—P. L.: 18—L. A. R.: 5—Z. f. B.: 3—

Special classes of libraries (and Special Collections). L. J.: 3—P. L.: 2—L. A. R.: 3—Z. f. B.: 3—B. f. V.: 2—

Historical features (including Descriptions of individual libraries and Biographical sketches). L. J.: 8—P. L.: 2—L. A. R.: 2—L. W.: 9—Z. f. B.: 4—B. f. V.: 1—

Book selection and collecting (including Relations with the book trade and the Fiction question). L. J.: 8—P. L.: 2—L. A. R.: 3—L. W.: 5—Z. f. B.: 1—B. f. V.: 6—

Books and authors (literary articles). P. L.: 3—B. f. V.: 5—*Bibliography and Cataloguing*. L. J.: 6—P. L.: 2—L. A. R.: 3—L. W.: 7—Z. f. B.: 10—B. f. V.: 1—

Classification. L. J.: 2—L. W.: 1—B. f. V.: 1—*Manuscripts and paleography*. L. J.: 1 (a translation)—Z. f. B.: 5—

Printing (history). Z. f. B.: 3—

Physical aspect of the Book (paper, binding). P. L.: 1—

L. A. R.: 3—Z. f. B.: 2—

Library profession and Staff questions. L. J.: 3—P. L.: 1—

L. A. R.: 2—L. W.: 5—

Instruction and training. L. J.: 3—P. L.: 3—L. A. R.: 2—

L. W.: 1—B. f. V.: 2—

Foreign library affairs. L. J.: 10—P. L.: 3—L. W.: 3—

Z. f. B.: 5—B. f. V.: 1—

Turning now to the individual articles, we find, naturally enough, the most significant to be those dealing with extension of the work and influence of the library. Easily first in importance under this head is Professor L. H. Bailey's address at the Lake George meeting, — "Library Work for Rural Communities" (L. J., Oct.). Here are new problems presented in a forceful and attractive way, and the work of libraries put in relation with the whole movement to improve rural conditions. The particular message of Professor Bailey we find in the statement that while "to a large extent the effect of library work is to cause persons to read for entertainment," the needs of the countryman are different. He is, consciously or not, a fatalist. "His work is largely in the presence of the elemental forces of nature." This develops in him either "a complacent and joyful resignation" or "a species of rebellion which leads to a hopeless and pessimistic outlook on life." "The countryman," therefore, "needs to read for courage." It is significant that the rural problem has been touched in England also, in the address before the Library Association at Brighton by its President, Mr. C. Thomas-Stanford (L. A. R., Sept.). To make country life attractive to men and women "emancipated by education from the *ascriptio glebae* which was the lot of their fathers," is one of the great problems of the day, and one way to meet it is to increase among them the opportunities for reading.

A further extension of the possibilities for usefulness of libraries has been effected in England through the coöperation of the Library Association with the National Home Reading Union, an organization of somewhat the same character as the Chautauqua Reading Circles. The October "Library Association Record" contains a statement of the new developments of the Union, including the agreement between it and the Library Association. A feature of this coöperation is the publication of a "Readers' Review" issued by the two bodies, through which the readers in public libraries receive guidance in the choice of books and subjects for reading.

Closely related to these phases of library extension are the questions of how to select the most suitable books for the public library and how to arrange them. The classification of fiction is not a new matter in this country, or in England; but it would seem that the article by Professor C. Lausberg of Düsseldorf, on "Die Gliederung der schöngeistigen Literatur" (B. f. V. July-Aug. and Sept.-Oct.), is the first serious discussion of the subject in the German professional press. The librarian of the Düsseldorf Volksbibliothek has convictions of his own on the subject, and his articles are directed against adverse criticisms of the system used in the library of which he has charge. He claims that in a popular library the borrowers are looking chiefly

for recreative reading, and the books should be arranged on the shelves so as to help them to select that which suits their taste. In fiction the reader is led in his choice "by temperament rather than by intellect. The tastes are as a rule permanent." And the author goes on to cite several instances of highly cultivated men and women, by no means adverse to "heavy" reading even outside of their professional work, but who, when choosing books for recreation, select writers of a decidedly light character. "And if a poor seamstress or a down-trodden saleswoman asks for books of the Heimbürg and Schobert kind for her lonely, tired evenings, let her have them to the end of her days." "I have never," he says, "thought much of the education of readers to 'higher things.'" Reviews of books suitable for popular reading have always been a special feature of "Blätter für Volksbibliotheken." Each issue contains a number of notices of current books, both fiction and others, short and to the point, enabling one to see at a glance the character and point of view of each. Besides this regular department, most issues contain special articles about well-known writers, estimating especially their work, as "Volkschriftsteller." Among the writers discussed during the past year we find Gottfried Keller, Heinrich Steinhäuser, and Karl Emil Franzos.

Mr. Ernest E. Savage, in a paper read at a monthly meeting of the Library Association, discusses "Some Difficulties in the Selection of Scientific and Technical Books" (L. A. R., Ap.). He deprecates the lack of competent guides to the best books. He seems rather too much given to the cult of the books "hot from the press," and presents incidentally his compliments to the "A. L. A. Book-List," which he finds to contain chiefly "evaluative gush." Criticism of American methods is found in another paper in the "Library Association Record" for June, by Mr. James D. Stewart, on "The Cult of the Child and Common Sense." Mr. Stewart opposes the introduction of exaggerated work with children from American to British libraries; the story hour especially he thinks should be avoided. "The library is primarily for the adult and secondarily for the juvenile, and if this is kept in mind the efficiency of the institution will gain, and much money and energy will be saved." Mr. Stewart quotes with approval from the report of the Examining Committee of the Boston Public Library, which, he says, "possesses one of the most sanely managed children's departments." It is interesting to find, in the April "Library Journal," a paper by a former chairman of the subcommittee on branches of the Boston committee, Miss Caroline Matthews, on "The Growing Tendency to Over-Emphasize the Children's Side," in which the writer says: "Nothing has astonished me more than this new development in library practice — the placing of the child in importance before the adult." As chairman of the subcommittee on branches, Miss Matthews has especial opportunity to study the children's rooms and the work with children generally. She sums the matter up in this sentence:

* Issued in separate form by O. Harrassowitz in Leipzig together with another article: "Allerlei Gedanken über das Bibliothekswesen."

"I grew to have a horror of children's rooms — as distinct from children's departments. Intellectually, physically, morally, I believe them harmful. Neither can I see their necessity."

If tendencies are apparent to relegate the work with children to a less prominent place, the needs of the workingmen and the industrial classes in general are receiving more attention. It is evidenced, however, by the articles on this subject that appeared in the March "Public Libraries," that American librarians here stand before a problem that is new to many, and one which they do not quite understand. Mr. Sam Walter Foss hits the nail on the head when he says that "we are not keeping step in this country to the new industrial music as are some of the European nations." His suggestion that the library "mix a little masculinity in its over-feminized collections" is to the point, and might be made to cover methods and surroundings as well.

While the journals whose contents have hitherto passed in review discuss mainly the questions of everyday life in public libraries, the case is different with "Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen." This journal caters to the workers in the large libraries, or at least to those of scholarly character. The problems under discussion are therefore to some extent, though not altogether, different. The question of local collections, for instance, which was presented by Dr. Keysser of Cologne at last year's meeting of the German librarians, is of interest to the workers in any public library, and Dr. Keysser's paper should be read with profit by them. He is particularly competent to speak on the matter, as the City Library of Cologne not only makes particular effort to collect books of local character, but is one of a group of libraries along the middle course of the Rhine which have joined together for the collecting of printed matter relating to their common district. Besides the proceedings at the annual conference of German librarians, this journal contains the papers read at the library section of the eighth International Historical Congress in Berlin. The general subject for deliberation at the section was Coöperation, — union catalogues, inter-library loans, and the like. Dr. R. Fick, the head of the Bureau of Information of the Prussian Union Catalogue, Dr. F. Eichler in Graz, and Dr. H. Escher in Zürich, reported, respectively, on the work in Prussia, Austria, and Switzerland. Dr. Aksel Andersson of Upsala presented, after a survey of the present situation in matters of inter-library loans, a resolution, which was adopted by the section for presentation to the International Association of Academies, which organization has lent its powerful aid to the development of direct relations between the libraries of Europe. The resolution expressed the appreciation of the section for the efforts of the Association, and presented some desiderata tending to a further simplification of the direct lending of books from library to library. The question of inter-library loans, which for some time has been

dormant in this country, was revived by Mr. W. C. Lane in his address at the dedication of the new library building of Oberlin College, the concluding portion of which was printed in the December "Library Journal" under the title: "A Central Bureau of Information and Loan Collection for College Libraries." It is a carefully worked out plan for the organization of a central office or agency for loans between libraries, which gradually should collect a library of such works, chiefly long sets of serials and other expensive works, as are not available for loan through other libraries.

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON.

AMERICAN LIBRARIES THROUGH AN ENGLISH MONOCLE.

English and American library efficiency is a subject for good-tempered and helpful, and also for acrimonious and futile, debate. By a well-known weakness of human nature, a weakness rather comical than tragic, our own virtues loom large, and our neighbor's vices even larger. The January number of "The Library World" (London) opens with a carefully studied and highly readable editorial comparison of "European and American Libraries," dealing especially with libraries in England and the United States. The recognized fact that library workers are better paid in this country than abroad is made much of to demonstrate the greater cost of per capita service here. It is true that, like all new countries, America has incurred the charge of lavishness and waste, and our library economy may not be the strictest economy in one sense of the word. We may, too, fail to adopt some of our English cousins' library methods and reforms that are richly deserving of adoption. But are we quite so blind and foolish, so arrogant and ignorant, as this English editor seems to think? Possibly he has indulged the literary artist's fondness for rhetorical effect, while cherishing none but the most cordial and friendly and admiring sentiments toward us. At any rate, here are a few of his most picturesque utterances: "As a matter of fact, what ails the average American library invalid is simply indigestion, caused by lack of active employment, and having emoluments large enough to enable him (her more often) to eat pumpkin pie, clams, baked beans and canvas-back duck all the year round! The enormous sums frittered away in America on unproductive and useless library 'activities' have no parallel in Europe, where common-sense takes the place of hysteria in such matters, for example, as the treatment of children. . . . The mingled bounce and twaddle which garnish the average American library report prove somewhat comical reading to those who really know what library conditions are in various parts of the world. . . . Thus we may have the report of the 'superintendent of the page's brass buttons'; the statement of the marble polisher; the special report of the torn leaf

department; the statistical abstract of the stenographic department, and all the empty and costly parade which distinguishes these preposterous documents. . . . In library matters American ideals are decidedly stale. Her methods were more or less standardized between 1878 and 1888, and since then not an atom of progress has been made save in the piling up of immense revenues and the establishment of unnecessary staffs which have to attempt to justify their existence by launching out into equally needless and futile 'missionary' enterprises." Not an atom of progress! Far less, then, a molecule; and some of us thought we had crept forward a good inch, if not half a foot. The article from which the foregoing excerpts are taken honors *THE DIAL*, among other American journals, with special mention; but the charge that certain statements of ours "are not only written with a most lofty sense of American superiority, but are manifestly based on ignorance of library conditions in Europe," seems a little harsh. It is true that in a recent issue we quoted Professor Mahaffy's commendation of our "finely systematized and organized libraries"; but he is a Briton, and we were too proud of his good opinion to keep silent. And we have occasionally alluded to a certain disinclination to cut loose from red tape as noted in some of the great royal or imperial libraries of Europe. On the other hand, we not long ago (see vol. 42, p. 214) commented adversely on our own libraries' inferior efficiency as compared with a certain German public library, and were called to account for it in this country; and we also (see vol. 43, p. 198) took pleasure in chronicling the convention of British librarians at Glasgow, with approving comment on the unselfish devotion of British library workers, and regretful note of their inadequate remuneration. We were not consciously writing in a spirit of loftiness, condescension, or ignorance; but who can understand his errors? We are glad to be cleansed of some of our secret faults.

CASUAL COMMENT.

THE CLASSIFYING INSTINCT is in some degree present in all of us. We feel that if we can only get the heterogeneous and confusing objects and facts and events of this bewildering world divided into classes and subclasses, all neatly labelled and pigeon-holed, they will give us no further trouble. To systematize the universe is to explain it, we are tempted to believe. This mania for classification, for making everything fit into a catalogue (preferably decimal in its scheme of division), is very naturally, and not altogether improperly, encouraged in the training of librarians. "It has for so long been supposed," writes Director Wyer of the New York State Library, in his current Report, "that cataloguing is the backbone of effective library administration, that this subject always looms far larger than any other in the program of either a summer or a winter school. In the former case, however, the excessive time given to cataloguing seems to be at the expense of the more inspirational features of the work, and the

faculty is seriously considering either the omission of all cataloguing from the general course in 1909 and offering it as a special elective course covering about four weeks, or a considerable reduction in the time and work given to the subject. So many of those who come to a summer session are from libraries too small to find use for any catalogue at all, or at least too small for any but the briefest author and title list, or they fill positions which never have demanded and probably never will permit any or much experience in cataloguing. The omission of this subject from the required work of the summer session will give a very welcome increase of leisure time which may be devoted with profit to book selection, personal work with readers, the actual study of the inside of the books themselves, and the larger phases of library administration which are related to the community which it serves." The proposed change is commendable. Almost any course of mental training might profit the would-be librarian (so miscellaneous will be the demands made on his intelligence) as long as it does not nourish in him (and in her) the notion that mankind in general and library-users in particular are machines, and that the whole world, especially the library world, is wound up once for all and runs like clock-work.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA is so much younger, so much smaller, and so much less important in every way than the Library of Congress in the same city, that few even of those interested in such things are fully aware how large and excellent a library it really is. The Librarian's Tenth Annual Report gives the last year's circulation as over half a million, and tells in detail what is being done and being planned to increase still further the library's usefulness. A matter of general interest is touched upon in the following: "It is gratifying to be able to report that the percentage of fiction circulated has been further reduced. In 1903-4, when no books except fiction were on open shelves for direct access, fiction formed nearly 84 per cent of the total circulation. Gradually during the last four years more and more books from non-fiction classes have been put on open shelves, and more and more help and guidance has been given to readers requiring assistance, with the result that the fiction percentage has been reduced to 65. The new Useful Arts and Science room is an open-shelf room, where those classes are directly accessible to readers. . . . In spite of too frequent thefts from open shelves, the value of putting the people in direct contact with the books, instead of forcing their approach through a card catalogue, is so well attested by the gradually falling fiction percentage as to justify the recommendation still further to extend open-shelf facilities until it is possible to have the cream of all classes of the library directly accessible to readers." A life-like portrait of the late A. R. Spofford, who served for eleven years on the library's board of trustees, and views, exterior and interior, of the handsome library building adorn this variously-informing Report, which of course bears the imprint of the Government Printing Office.

THE NEW HEAD OF HARVARD, chosen to succeed President Eliot next May, is a man already favorably known in education, as well as in letters and in law. Professor Abbott Lawrence Lowell is the son of Augustus Lowell, cotton manufacturer, shrewd Boston business man, and honored founder of the Lowell Institute. Born December 13, 1856, Professor Lowell

has hardly more than begun his sixth decade, but has had ample opportunity to display his initiative and force as an educator, both in a term of service on the Boston school board and as Eaton Professor of the Science of Government at Harvard. With a successful law practice behind him, and known as the author of a two-volume work on governments and parties in continental Europe, he accepted a call from his *alma mater* twelve years ago and began there his lectures on government which have become so popular with his large classes of students. His success as lecturer and teacher has been attributed "not only to his thorough grasp of the subject and to his complete confidence in it as a field of study, but to his unflinching self-control in the class-room, his mastery of the art of speaking fluently yet with dignity; above all, perhaps, to the wealth of apt illustration and illustrative anecdote which he has at ready command." His reputation as a scholar and writer in his chosen field has lately been increased by the publication of still another learned and illuminative work, "The Government of England," a book worthy to stand beside Mr. Bryce's "American Commonwealth" as a foreigner's lucid exposition of a great country's polity in theory and practice. Professor Lowell's administrative ability has conspicuously attested itself in these active and fruitful years at Cambridge, so that there is every reason to feel confidence in his wise and progressive management of the great institution committed to his charge.

THE JOYS OF AN AMATEUR LIBRARIAN are enlarged upon by a writer in the December "Bulletin of the Vermont Library Commission." She chooses to call herself an amateur, but is one only in the best sense of the word,—an enthusiastic devotee of her calling. Before being drawn into the work, suddenly and compellingly, she confesses herself to have been "like many others on the outside who felt that library work was simple, was work in a straight line, more or less mechanical, and just with a daily routine to meet." But she soon, and to her increasing delight, discovered her mistake. "There is," she declares, "no limit for originality and adaptation of well-known library contrivances and suggestions, and the outlook is so broad and the road branches into so many paths that it cannot fail to be of vital interest to one engaged in it." In recounting some of her enjoyable experiences she says: "Great pleasure comes with choosing new books, conferring with the trustees, ordering and receiving them [*i. e.*, the books, not the trustees]. In a large library where new books are without novelty, though of great interest in themselves, this joy is lost, and I am sorry for the people who cannot have it, and thankful that my lot was in a bypath." Only a desire for larger experience and for the training that comes with working under veteran librarians induced the writer to exchange her happy lot for what finally proved to be a different sort of employment in a great city; but she writes: "My interest in library work is very vital, and the large libraries mean more, the small ones mean more, every bookstore means more, and every working girl means more than they would if I had never had my place among them." Well for her, perhaps, that the amateur spirit did not have time to become transformed into the professional. When the amateur's zest has departed from one's calling, it is time to step out and look around for another sphere of usefulness. When we have thoroughly learned a trade, that is sometimes the psychological moment for giving it up.

THE NEW HISTORIAN OF ROME, Signor Guglielmo Ferrero, who has made so favorable an impression as lecturer and scholar in his visit to this country, and whose history of "The Greatness and Decline of Rome" is received with such approval, is a comparatively young man. Born near Naples in 1871, the son of a Piedmontese railway engineer, he studied law at Pisa and belles-lettres at Bologna, where he received his academic degree. He early began his travels and entered upon those studies of foreign countries and foreign manners that bore fruit in his "Young Europe," a collection of observations made in Germany, Russia, England, and Scandinavia. The book was immediately successful and called forth many solicitations from Italian and foreign periodicals for contributions from its author's pen. A leading Milan journal engaged him to write a weekly article, and the Lombard Peace Society invited him to deliver a course of lectures on militarism, which were widely discussed. It was in 1902 that the first volume of his great work now in course of publication appeared. In person our distinguished visitor is tall and thin and ascetic, but with an imperious bearing that marks him as not exactly the midnight-oil-burning recluse which his depth of learning may have led us to expect. With the best years of his life still ahead of him, Signor Ferrero will disappoint us if he does not go far before he finishes.

POETRY AND BUSINESS mix about as well as oil and vinegar. Nevertheless there is here and there a business man who is fond of poetry, and, still more rarely, there may be found one who makes poetry of his business, which is a very different thing from making a business of poetry. The Marblehead seedsman whose annual catalogue we have already twice noticed with approval again greets his seed-planting, vegetable-raising, and flower-cultivating patrons with a yearly schedule of good things in embryonic plant-life,—that is, with his annual "Vegetable and Flower Seed Catalogue, Free for All." It is a most welcome and cheering reminder of the approach of spring, or rather of summer, with its pictures of plethoric potatoes and pumpkins, of bursting pea-pods and sleek-skinned tomatoes, of daintily-fringed carnations and thickly-clustering verbenas. But best of all is the retiring senior partner's "Word to Old Friends," with its concluding poem entitled "At Eighty-One." Its four stanzas are all good, especially the final one:

"Happy the life that bears upon its wings
All hope and joy, yet aims at higher things;
Takes from each passing hour its priceless share,
And scatter's Love's rich blessings everywhere."

To have preserved through the wear and tear of business, the spirit of this poem up to the age of four-score and more, and to have breathed something of that spirit even into one's business, is no small achievement to look back upon.

ROBERT BURTON'S REQUEST OF BOOKS to Christ Church, Oxford, is now, after two hundred and sixty-nine years, duly catalogued and arranged. The author of "The Anatomy of Melancholy,"—now not exactly a "best seller," but named by Dr. Johnson as the only book that ever took him out of bed two hours before his usual time,—studied both at Brazenose College and at Christ Church, but it was at the latter that he may be said to have lived and died, holding his ecclesiastical appointments by proxy. To Christ Church and to the Bodleian Library he left his books—such as they did not already possess; and we infer that the college

received the larger share. Burton, too, as we read, was for a time librarian at Christ Church, which strengthened his interest in its library. English officials are admittedly slower than our own, and their library methods are more deliberate. Nevertheless two centuries and a half seems a long time to take for cataloguing a small collection of books; but if they comprise all the books quoted from in the "Anatomy," the collection cannot be so very small, after all. There is a rumor, we believe, of a legacy or purchase of books from President John Adams that has been slumbering uncatalogued, and so practically non-existent, in the Boston Public Library for half a century, more or less. At the end of another two centuries perhaps it, too, will be available for use.

THE HUNGER FOR BOOKS IN THE COUNTRY, where time hangs heavy and people go mad from pure *ennui*, is evinced by the reported circulation of public library books in fifty-eight places of less than 500 population each, in New York State. With an average population of 290 and an average book-supply of 48 volumes per capita, there was an average circulation of 6.5 volumes to each inhabitant. To equal this creditable record, such representative city libraries as those of Utica and of New York would have to increase their present circulation two and one-half times. Their per capita supply of books, too, falls very far short of forty-eight. These figures are cited by the Maryland State Library Commission in its Report for 1908, the sixth year of its existence. Maryland is still a very poor State in the matter of free libraries, and the results attained in the far larger and richer commonwealth, on which it may well cast eyes of envy, will not soon be achieved among its more scattering and less opulent population. But the Commission appears to be putting forth earnest efforts toward so desirable an end.

A MEMORIAL TO LINCOLN, which will have educative influence, has been proposed by the Lincoln Educational League, an incorporated body with headquarters in New York. Funds have been or are being raised for the purpose of placing in the schoolhouses of the country bronze tablets bearing as inscription the complete text of Lincoln's Gettysburg address, that brief but almost perfect example of noble elegiac prose. Read and pondered by the school-going youth of the land, what might it not, by its daily though unobtrusive presence before the children's eyes, effect in the way of mental and spiritual uplift? Besides its noble thought, it would set a standard of concise and dignified expression, and would probably be of more value to the pupil, first and last, than the irksome writing of a hundred themes or compositions. A more worthy method of marking this centennial year of one of the world's greatest men could hardly be devised.

EUROPE'S IGNORANCE OF AMERICA has more than once contributed to the gaiety of at least one nation — namely, our own. A German lady that we know of took occasion to comment on the causes of our Civil War by remarking: "Well, how could you expect the North and South not to disagree, with nothing to connect them but a narrow isthmus?" And now we find a London weekly review printing a notice of Miss Mary Johnston's "Lewis Rand" in which the reviewer sums up his impression of the hero as "a kind of South American Bonaparte." How many more intelligent persons are there across the Atlantic, we wonder, who conceive of Virginia, and what we in general call "the South," as situated in South America?

COMMUNICATIONS.

"IDO" AND "PIGEON ENGLISH."

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

In suggesting, in a recent issue of your journal, that the international language-makers turn their attention to "Pigeon English," you overlook the fact that an international language should serve not merely for the primitive needs of travellers, but also for scientific inter-communications between the nations of western civilization. These nations have in the space of two thousand years developed a common international vocabulary, based in the main on Latin, and to some extent on Greek. Even German and Russian possess this Romance vocabulary; but how much of it is to be found in the Saxon-Chinese jargon on which you wish to turn us loose? A Teutonic world-language, such as Mr. Molee proposes, is impossible, for similar reasons. An international language must be something more than inter-Teutonic. Moreover, the idea of having a union tongue between English, German, Dutch, and Scandinavian speakers, to supplant their respective native idioms, is the direct opposite of the desire to have an *auxiliary* tongue, the second for all nations.

Only the systems that are based on *international* roots fulfil this condition; and among them Ido, the simplified Esperanto, ranks by far the highest in regularity, simplicity, logic, exactness, flexibility, and euphony. No arguments of a personal character, such as those offered by a correspondent in one of your recent numbers, will prevent this fact from becoming more generally recognized, as Ido becomes better known. The fittest must survive.

O. H. MATER.

Chicago, January 20, 1909.

ESPERANTO AND "IDO."

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

IN THE DIAL for Dec. 16, some remarks were made by Mr. Julian Park, against the already consummated reform of Esperanto by the system called "Ido." Exactly why Mr. Park should wish to discourage progress in that direction is not clear. He takes occasion to say that a previous note by me was neither consistent nor convincing. I beg leave to return the compliment, for Mr. Park himself admits that "Ido" has taken all that is good in Esperanto. Therefore, — inferentially and truly, — the old Esperanto contains much that is bad, which, of course, does not appear in "Ido." The latter is the first and only international language coming to us with the stamp of scholarship. It is not necessary to ascribe its authorship to the Marquis de Beaufront, who is not "a mere plagiarist," as alleged by Mr. Park. I would like to ask any well-informed Esperantist where his "*kara lingvo*" would be to-day, were it not for the valuable propaganda work performed for it, in France, during many years, by that same Marquis de Beaufront, who, however, is well able to defend himself.

The quickest and best way to end the whole discussion is to leave the final choice of an international language in the hands of the public, where, indeed, it must eventually rest.

EUGENE F. McPIKE.

Chicago, January 22, 1909.

The New Books.

THE LADY OF HOLLAND HOUSE.*

Beautiful, clever, imperious, — these are the adjectives repeatedly applied by her contemporaries to the hostess of Holland House, who for forty years presided there over a coterie of the brightest and most distinguished men of her time. The glimpses we have had of this engaging personality through the pages of Moore, Rogers, and Macaulay lead to high expectation when we are offered the opportunity of hearing the lady herself speak through the pages of her own Journal.

We know what the guests thought of her — this third Lady Holland — in her best moods and in her worst, when everything was to her mind or when her dinner-party went badly — as dinner-parties will at times, even with great ladies. We have been charmed with Macaulay's picture of that wonderful drawing-room, in all its stately grandeur, where "the last debate was discussed in one corner and the last comedy of Scribe in another; while Wilkie gazed with modest admiration on Sir Joshua's Baretta; while Mackintosh turned over Thomas Aquinas to verify a quotation; while Talleyrand related his conversations with Barras at the Luxembourg, or his ride with Lannes over the field of Austerlitz." What revelations, then, may we not expect when we are invited to another and more confidential view? Shall we not learn what the hostess thought of her guests, as well as what the guests thought of the hostess? Shall we not gain more minute details of this brilliant circle where every art and science was hospitably entertained and given a hearing?

But alas! the Journal ends in 1811, thirty years before the time of which Macaulay wrote; and consequently not one of the poets, essayists, or wits of his time whose portraits we had hoped to behold is even mentioned in its pages. This is the first great disappointment of the book.

The second great disappointment is like unto the first, though not of equal extent. In these two volumes of about three hundred pages each, the political is almost as lacking as the literary interest. We do indeed find many allusions to men and events during the years when Holland House was the rallying place for the Whig rebels, but all in so rambling and indefinite a manner that the Journal cannot be said to throw

much light upon this stirring time. The lady of the manor is said to have prided herself on her command of the English language; but her Journal, certainly, bears little evidence of picturesqueness of phrase or even clearness of statement. Moreover, it requires about half of Volume I. to reach the date (1797) when the writer becomes Lady Holland. When the record begins she is Lady Webster, and although only twenty years old has been already married five years to a man more than twice her age and utterly uncongenial in every way. It is a pathetic story, based on a perfunctory marriage arranged by parents, ending in desertion on the wife's part and divorce sought and obtained on the husband's. At the age of twenty-two, Lady Webster writes:

"This fatal day seven years gave me, in the bloom and innocence of fifteen, to the power of a being who has made me execrate my life since it has belonged to him. Despair often prompts me to a remedy within my reach. . . . Nature is assisted to relieve us in our diseases — why not terminate those of the mind? My mind is worked up to a state of savage exaltation, and impels me to act with fury that proceeds more from passion and deep despair than I can in calmer moments justify. Oftentimes in the gloom of midnight I feel a desire to curtail my grief, and but for an unaccountable shudder that creeps over me, ere this the deed of rashness would be executed."

"My tormentor" is her usual form of allusion to the man whose name she bore; and a most fitting one it is, judging from the sacrifices she continually made to keep him in passable humor. In travelling, if but one bed is to be had, the husband makes himself comfortable in that, while the wife sleeps on the floor and the maid in the carriage outside. Settling in a palace at Florence where English habits have not been provided for, and there are but three rooms with fireplaces, she goes without, while "my tormentor has one, the nursery and sitting room the others."

Most of the eleven years of the married life of this ill-assorted pair was spent abroad, in France and Italy. Naturally, the lady writes a good deal about the places she visits, the works of art she sees, etc. But her descriptions and reflections are not more valuable or significant than the opinions of the average young woman in the early twenties, and it seems a pity and something of an injustice to publish them in this day of eyes trained for art and familiar with foreign lands by much travel. Nevertheless, our sympathies are all with the young woman when, at the age of twenty-six, a divorce is granted, with the custody of her children denied.

But the misery of this first experience of

*THE JOURNAL OF ELIZABETH LADY HOLLAND (1791-1811). Edited by the Earl of Ilchester. In two volumes. Illustrated. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

marriage seems to have been more than compensated by the happiness of the second, when she became the wife of Henry Richard, third Earl of Holland. If anything more were needed to add to our admiration of this delightful gentleman and distinguished statesman, we should have it here, in the adoring wife's Journal. "Imperious" as she is said to have been, especially in her later years, there are few signs of it in her Journal, and never in her domestic relations. She seems to have been a tender mother to the ten children of her two marriages.

Possibly it is unfair, when offered a peep at a lady's Journal a century after it is written, to complain because it fails to fill certain gaps which, reasonably or unreasonably, the modern reader would like to see filled. And although lacking indeed in the ways we have suggested, — being too diffuse at the beginning and too curtailed at the end, — there is now and then a bit of happy characterization of persons of whom we can never hear too much. Charles James Fox, Lord Holland's uncle, is her great favorite as he was the favorite of all his contemporaries. Sheridan she does not love over much, and reports Hare as saying that Sheridan was always playing a game when with women; his forte being at a club over wine, and in debate. She reports several of his happy retorts, however, such as his reply when someone ran after him at the theatre to ask if algebra was not a language. "To be sure," said Sheridan, "an old language spoken by an ancient people called the Classics." She describes Parr's vanity and Knight's pedantry, and adds they "fell upon a doubtful Greek word and pulled at it like hungry curs." Dr. Davy, Master of Caius, is dubbed a "good-natured, trifling, insignificant man." Wordsworth she found "much superior to his writings, and his conversation is even beyond his abilities. I should almost fear he is disposed to apply his talents more towards making himself a *vigorous conversationist* in the style of our friend Sharp, than to improve his style of composition."

Much allowance has occasionally to be made for the lady's personal bias, the editor sometimes bringing evidence from others to put us on our guard. But when all possible deductions have been made, the fact remains that to be a hostess of such power as to attract and hold the kind and the numbers of persons that gladly accepted her invitations to Holland House implies social gifts of a very high order; and social gifts are not so common as to be spoken of lightly. The editor says: "She possessed to the full the gift

of drawing out her guests. Conversation never flagged at her table, and however diverse were the sentiments of those who met under her roof, they felt that they were there able to fraternize on neutral ground."

Two charming pictures of Lady Holland, copied from paintings made while she was still in her youthful grace and beauty, are given in the first volume. They aid us to realize somewhat of her personal fascination, which, combined with "as warm a heart as ever beat in woman's breast," perhaps furnishes a clue to the charm that gave Holland House its reputation and still surrounds it with a distinction shared by few other houses on English soil.

ANNA BENNESON MCMAHAN.

MOLIÈRE IN ENGLISH VERSE.*

Learning from the title-page of Professor Curtis Hidden Page's translation of Molière that the verse plays are here for the first time rendered into English verse, one turns with mistrust the pages until convinced by favorite passages of "Tartuffe" or "The Misanthrope" that the arduous task of rendering the Master's rhymed hexameters into the heroic blank measure of the English classic drama has been adequately accomplished. So Gallic is the wit of Molière's comedies, so replete with French subtlety are their lines, that no one of the dozen or more English translations made heretofore has succeeded in giving the English reader a true perception of either the finesse or the purely Gallic humor in which they abound.

Of these, the best, as Professor Page himself agrees, is that by Charles Herron Wall in the Bohn Standard Library. Next in attractiveness, the present writer is inclined to place the selection of seventeen plays made by Katharine Prescott Wormeley; for, although the more complete translation by A. R. Waller is accompanied by the French text and many notes, and that by the late Henri van Laun contains a valuable introduction and appendices, the English of each of these writers is more laborious and stilted than is that of either Mr. Wall or Miss Wormeley. Earlier editions, or selections, of Molière's plays in English were published in 1714, 1732, 1748, 1762, and 1771; and one of these (the edition of 1732-1748) Professor

* MOLIÈRE. A New Translation, the Verse Plays being for the first time rendered into English verse, by Curtis Hidden Page. With Introduction by Brander Matthews. In two volumes. Foreign Classics for English Readers. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Page proclaims "a storehouse of apt words and phrases which I, like all modern translators that I know of, have pillaged freely." After acknowledging the aptness of this early translation and the sufficiency of Van Laun's, it may be said without hesitation that Professor Page's is the first to which the word "excellent" may be justly applied. Were it not for the fact that but eight of the plays are to be found in the two volumes in which his text is presented, "definitive" would be the word to qualify this altogether admirable translation.

Since these volumes form a part of the Messrs. Putnam's "French Classics for English Readers" series, the offence of incompleteness may not be laid entirely at the translator's door; yet, when it is announced that in this series "the best and most representative works of each author are given in full," either he or his editor should be held accountable for the failure to include among Molière's "best and most representative" plays "L'Etourdi." The best it is not, assuredly; yet it represents the metamorphosis of Molière, the hack-writer of a troupe of strolling players, to Molière, the master of the art of comedy. Furthermore, it is typical of the first phase of his development — the time when his work was entirely influenced by Italian comedy; when he had not realized that his duty was to attack the foibles and hypocrisy of society "with ridiculous likeness"; the time before he had exclaimed, "Let us cease to be Italian, let us disdain being Spanish, let us be French!" Furthermore, one notes with regret the absence of "L'Ecole des maris," "L'Ecole des femmes," "George Dandin," and, above all, of "Le Malade imaginaire." Still, if but eight plays must be selected from the thirty-three existing, it is difficult to cavil at the choice Professor Page has made; i. e., "Les Précieuses ridicules," "Don Juan," "Le Tartuffe," "Le Misanthrope," "Le Médecin malgré lui," "L'Avare," "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme," and "Les Femmes savantes."

Three of these plays are in verse, and to these one turns, as has been said, with mistrust — not, be it added, of Professor Page's ability as a translator, but of the possibility of rendering adequately in English Molière's alexandrines. Although in one or two instances verse translations of important passages have been made, it has remained for Professor Page to render "Le Tartuffe," "Le Misanthrope," and "Les Femmes savantes" into English verse. Only one who has attempted the verse translation of occasional passages of Molière's may appreciate

thoroughly the almost insurmountable difficulties in Professor Page's path. These he has himself set forth in his illuminating preface. "It seems strange," he exclaims, "that in all these years no attempt has been made to translate Molière's plays into English verse. . . . Yet should not the ideal of the translator be to produce in his own tongue a work as nearly as possible equivalent to the original? And if so, how can he, handicapped as he necessarily is by the difference between two languages, accept the still greater handicap of the contrast between verse and prose?"

"When it became necessary to include 'Tartuffe' and 'The Misanthrope' in this series of French Classics," he goes on to say, "I could not accept a prose translation as at all truly reproducing them for English readers. . . . The ideal which I set before myself was therefore to say in good English dramatic verse (if I could) exactly what Molière has said in good French dramatic verse."

A praiseworthy ideal, yet difficult in its attainment. Indeed, so different are the geniuses of the two languages that the translator is met at the outset by prosodial obstacles in themselves almost insurmountable. Rhymed alexandrines have, as Professor Page says, "never been good English dramatic verse and never can by any possibility be so." It is a metre ill according with the spirit of our language, and wisely he has selected the unrhymed pentameter measure of our own dramatic poetry. It was impossible, of course, to retain by this means the melodious rhythm of the original, yet, by using the five-accent iambic of our heroic measure, he has at once suggested to the English ear dramatic poetry, thus overcoming the greatest difficulty of all translation, — to wit, the avoidance of foreign construction in the English rendering. Indeed, so thoroughly English is iambic blank verse, with its shifting of accents and occasional extra syllables, that the form itself conveys the suggestion of idiom rather than of translation. It is, moreover, our classic equivalent of the French rhymed alexandrines. Being the medium of all good English dramatic verse, it is historically and dramatically equipollent to the French measure used by Molière; therefore it is the correct translation of that metre, the one above all others with which to convey the spirit, if not the letter, of Molière's rhymed verses to the English ear. The phrasing, too, is a matter requiring nicety on the translator's part. It should be suggestive of the English comedy contemporaneous with Molière; yet not so archaic

as to destroy the surprising modernness of the great Frenchman's thought.

Having indicated the obstacles in the path of the translator of Molière, it becomes a pleasure to state that Professor Page has surmounted them admirably. Nowhere does he give the fatal impression of translation. Indeed, so idiomatic is his verse, so suggestive of the English comedy of the time when Molière wrote his masterpieces, that, if one were to venture a criticism, it would be to suggest that it is too English. In other words, in "avoiding all effort for 'poetical' ornament," he has occasionally so "wilfully broken up the too regular movement of the French lines" that the rhythm suffers. A little more rhythm might have suggested more completely the French alexandrine gliding upon its classic course like a mighty river of harmony. Moreover, Molière's verse is so singularly lacking in the imagery which is the charm of Shakespeare that, shorn of its rhythm, it is often too suggestive of metrified prose to be satisfying. But as Professor Page has so successfully avoided all appearances of translation, this criticism of his verse becomes so captious that one is tempted to apologize for having made it. Indeed, so acceptably has his task been accomplished that a just critic should only exclaim, "Well done!"

In the prose plays, too, he has been so successful in his choice of apt words, so conscientious in his endeavors to avoid all Latinity, that they read like English comedies. Throughout them, he has used quips and expressions of the corresponding English period, and avoided Latin etymologies so thoroughly that they retain no flavor of translation. This is the highest praise that may be awarded a translator; yet, while bestowing it, one cannot resist saying that he has occasionally been too faithful to the methods of, shall we say, Congreve or Mrs. Behn. For instance, when, in "*Les Précieuses ridicules*," Gorgibus, discovering the cruel trick that has been played upon his daughter and his niece, exclaims, "*Oui, c'est une pièce sanglante, mais qui est un effet de votre impertinence, infâmes!*" Professor Page translates the passage in this wise, "Yes, it's a cruel trick, but you may thank your own foolish impudence for it, you sluts!" This rendering is doubtless suggestive of the restoration period of our drama; yet Molière, studied as he is in schools by young girls, should not be so restorationized as to have his Gallic epithet "*infâmes*" rendered in English by a word such as Professor Page has selected. Surely the unsullied term

"wretches" would have expressed more thoroughly the Frenchman's meaning.

Still, in spite of such occasional lapses, Professor Page's work is a credit at once to his erudition and to his skill as a writer of English. To him all credit is due for an arduous task skilfully performed. Of the plays in his translation it may be said truthfully that never before have they been so well rendered in our language, and that, in all probability, no succeeding translator will surpass his admirable presentation of Molière to the English reader in unlabored language.

The book contains a comprehensive bibliography, in which the more vital works are indicated by asterisks; furthermore, each play is accompanied by a scholarly notice in which salient features of its sources and presentation are adequately set forth. Professor Page's work itself is worthily introduced by Professor Brander Matthews, his scholarly prelude being a succinct biography of Molière. The volumes, like the others of this series, are edited by Professor Adolphe Cohn. These three scholars, all members of the faculty of Columbia University, stand preëminent among American Moliéristes. It is no small credit to them that so satisfactory and able a translation of Molière should be the result of their joint labor.

H. C. CHATFIELD-TAYLOR.

THE IRELAND OF TO-DAY.*

It is almost impossible at the present day to interest Americans in Ireland. The Irish, like the poor, they have always with them; and there is little desire to know more than that, like all foreigners, the Irish are here on a hazard of new fortunes. Excepting the fine verses of Walt Whitman, Americans have written little about Ireland more serious than good-natured raillery growing out of habitual holiday touring in that country; or, if any more serious treatment is attempted, it shows a lamentable lack of acquaintance with the vital sources of Irish life and thought. Other peoples have found Ireland well worth their study. Even the English, from Edmund Spenser to Mr. Sydney Brooks, have not failed on the score of gravity in writing about Ireland, however much some of them have failed on the side of truth. The Germans, with their instinct for scholarship, have gone to

* CONTEMPORARY IRELAND. By L. Paul-Dubois. An English Translation, with an Introduction, by T. M. Kettle, M.P. New York: The Baker & Taylor Co.

Ireland to study the Irish mind in the only proper sources of such study — Irish manuscript literature. Thus, Zeuss, Zimmer, and Kuno Meyer have a lasting part in what may be, not only for Irish literature but for all literature, the discovery of a rich vein of poetry.

It is to the French, however, that the Irish owe the salutary but perhaps thankless service of social and political criticism. "Contemporary Ireland," by M. L. Paul-Dubois, a writer already having to his credit important works on social and economic questions, should be peculiarly acceptable to Americans who prefer a condensed survey of a subject rather than an exhaustive review. This work is the third important study of its kind for which the Irish are indebted to the French. In 1839 Gustave De Beaumont, with strict adherence to a cause-and-effect method of inquiry, revealed the social and political conditions in Ireland, when, under Daniel O'Connell, the Irish were first emerging into democratic consciousness. A few decades later, Adolphe Perraud achieved the dismal task of chronicling the aftermath of the Famine by a history of the Irish as emigrants.

In writing of the Ireland of to-day, M. Paul-Dubois had a problem not less complex than that of De Beaumont, and scarcely less discouraging than that of Perraud. For, in spite of many economic reforms, Ireland shows signs of fast-spreading national decay; the Irish, though steadily winning concessions from England, are emigrating in an unceasing tide. M. Paul-Dubois had, however, a peculiar advantage over his predecessors. There is in the Ireland of to-day an opportunity for a criticism fascinating to a student of things of the mind. Dreary as the outlook is for an Ireland economically vigorous, the Irish are for the first time developing a national literature; they are creating, too, schools of painting and of art criticism which have little to do with the Royal Academy in Piccadilly. To solve the problem of a race intellectually active in the midst of material decay is well worth the serious study of a publicist. M. Paul-Dubois skilfully meets the difficulty of this paradox; he treats both phases of it by a method of outline, summary, and report, rather than by discussion. He knows that the secret of brevity in a comprehensive subject lies in the large grasp, the inclusive survey, rather than in minute amplification. His book is thus valuable as a compendium, an encyclopædic reference ready for the student seeking the original sources of Irish history.

The use M. Paul-Dubois himself makes of

these sources is instructive. He adopts De Beaumont's conclusion, which fixed the cause of Ireland's decay on an alien aristocracy, responsible for the whole misgovernment of Ireland. Pressing his search no further than this, he touches upon the main movements and leading personalities of Irish history, with a definiteness and vigor typical of the entire book. Irish mind and character are treated authoritatively rather than critically. In sketching the material decline of Ireland, resulting from confiscation of the land, the author is at his best. He knows how to make statistics illuminating. His estimate, too, of the Irish Nationalist Party is discriminating, and vitally constructive as criticism. For these, and for an unequivocal sympathy with all the Irish still hope for as a nation, the author deserves the enthusiastic commendation which his translator, Mr. Kettle, gives him in the Introduction. It is not with the spirit of the book that fault may be found. Its tone is perhaps too temporizing in treating of some phases of Irish life, but a frank heartiness toward the people written of is everywhere apparent. What one deplores is that the journalistic plan of the book works ill to its most vital topic — the regenerative influences now in progress in Ireland. This part of the discussion is too vital to be disposed of with the brevity of a business document. It needed keen reaction to the material at hand; an editorial treatment large, free, conclusive. Moreover, the Irish themselves offered ample help in what they are publishing every day. Fond as they are of flight and fancy, they are not disdainful of severe statistics, rigid facts, lashing self-criticism, to prove that if they cannot survive as a race they at least understand why they are about to fail. To what extent M. Paul-Dubois has contributed to an understanding of this impending failure, depends on how much his readers can amplify his compact *résumé*.

It is to be regretted that M. Paul-Dubois's plan forbade a searching history of institutional life in Ireland. Humble as Ireland is, her history is in a measure analogous to all European history. For centuries she has had her Guelf and Ghibelline wars, not fought on battlefields, but in cabinets, in petty intrigues, in compromises and collusions, in every way but the one which leads to gain or glory to the Irish people. No Dante could symbolize this struggle; it is without poetry, though not without pathos. Social life in Ireland at the present time requires, too, a fresh analysis. An aristocracy almost denuded of power, a middle class

democratic but unstable, a rural population just entering upon a slight measure of independence, a pauper community hopeless and helpless — these afford fine material for a study by the publicist of large resource and keen judgment. Besides these classes, which are common to all European countries, Ireland has a social life based almost wholly upon sectarian distinctions — a condition unknown elsewhere. This is why Irish patriotism, however sincere, is always ineffectual. Here is a subject for a sociological writer to explore, to enlarge upon. In treating of Ireland's common-school system, M. Paul-Dubois has compressed into a single chapter what might have been the main theme of his book. Education in Ireland is less a subject for the statistician than it is a call to a real crusade. On its reformation, particularly in its elementary phases, depends the rehabilitation of a wasting Ireland.

It is also to be regretted that some estimate of the present literary movement as a regenerative force in Ireland lay outside the purpose of M. Paul-Dubois's skilfully compressed treatise. A trenchant presentation of this movement as a national force, by a foreigner, might act as a stimulant and a corrective to a group of writers inclined too much to dreaming and not enough to thought. Irish writers of to-day, excellent as they are, learn too much of one another. They are withdrawing too much into a narrow coterie; they have their hearts too much in ethnic Ireland, and not enough in the Ireland, weak and desolate, of to-day. Much more important to an understanding of contemporary Ireland, however, than a criticism of her poets is some genuine appreciation of her thinking men. Ireland has a saving remnant, but those comprising it win scant sympathy from M. Paul-Dubois, who dismisses them as "intellectuals," "Voltaireans," "men who ape the French." Had he come closer to the heart of Ireland's mystery, he would have understood that these are the men who are plucking it out. It is true that some of them ape the French. He as a Frenchman lost an opportunity to show how they can more effectually do this to the saving of Ireland. This is seen in his attitude toward Mr. George Moore. This gifted Irishman's history, personal and artistic, is one of the most significant facts in the Ireland of to-day. Not till he imitated the erotic in Theophile Gautier, not till he had spent the prime vigor of his genius on novels contributive to English fiction, did he discover that his own country needed him. What he has done for her is in the nature

of a plea for liberal thought, a more humanistic interpretation of life. A Frenchman is the last man to despise an effort of this kind. Others, too, are eager in this enterprise of creating a real zest for life among a people to whom prayer is work rather than work prayer; whose women have the soul of Mary but not the thrift of Martha; who as a race love art and neglect comfort. It is the "intellectuals" who understand and love the soul of their race. It is they, groaning because of the morass of backwardness into which Ireland has fallen, who will wish that M. Paul-Dubois's sympathy had been broader as well as more intense. ELLEN FITZGERALD.

CONCLUSION OF THE SCHURZ REMINISCENCES.*

When near the end, Mr. Schurz told his friends that his only deep regret was the necessity of leaving his memoirs unfinished. As he had only reached the period of the first term of President Grant when his pen was laid down, every reader must keenly feel the same regret. Of this concluding volume, a little more than three hundred pages are from the hand of Mr. Schurz; and this is followed by about one hundred and fifty pages by Mr. Frederic Bancroft and Professor William A. Dunning, devoted to a sympathetic and very satisfactory sketch of his career from 1869 to the end. In our notice of the first two volumes of these *Reminiscences*, tribute was paid to those qualities of mind and heart which made of Carl Schurz, notwithstanding the fact that his birth and early training were in a foreign land, one of the most admirable fruitages so far secured from the tree of American institutions and citizenship.

The great lesson of his life, as of that of Curtis, Godkin, and others of his circle of friends and fellow-workers, is that of independence and intelligent idealism. He was never daunted by the fact that none of his high ideals in American politics was ever wholly attained. Temporary reverses were always to be expected, and each rebuff or delay was only an incentive to renewed effort. He had lived to see slavery wiped out, and the spoils system successfully beaten back from the larger part of the territory which it had usurped; and though protectionism and imperialism combined had taken fast hold upon the reins of government in the

*THE REMINISCENCES OF CARL SCHURZ. Volume III. 1863-1869. With a Sketch of his Life and Public Services from 1869 to 1906, by Frederic Bancroft and William A. Dunning. New York: The McClure Co.

closing years of his life, he never wavered in the faith that farther sighted and less selfish counsels would in the end prevail.

To the blind party man of either side, his political career of course seemed wholly erratic. As a matter of fact, the annals of American public life present few examples of such thorough-going consistency. In every crisis the possible courses of action open to him were brought to the test of the fundamental aims toward which his political life was directed, and that course was chosen which, on the whole, seemed likely to do most for the honorable furtherance of those aims. He was never one of those doctrinaire reformers who lose sight of actual conditions and disdain the small gains which are possible in a vain effort for the immediate attainment of more than is within immediate reach. And yet no small concession to his demands ever blinded his eyes to other shortcomings on the part of the politician or party by whom it was made. The half-loaf which is better than no bread could never be palmed off on him as the whole. The high-tariff policy of the Republican party was always repugnant to him, on moral as well as economic grounds; but that did not hinder him from supporting the candidates of that party so long as its attitude on the questions growing out of slavery and the Civil War seemed fairly correct and of predominant importance. With the sinking in relative importance of these war questions under the wise policy of Hayes, it was inevitable that his views on the civil service and the tariff should draw him to the support of Cleveland, as against a Republican with the personal record of James G. Blaine. But when the Democratic party repudiated Cleveland for Bryan and the free-silver craze, his long and frequently attested belief in the vital importance of a sound money system drove him to the support of McKinley. The imperialism into which McKinley was driven, against his own original inclination, was of course deeply repugnant to the man who had done more than any other to thwart a similar project in the days of Grant; and as other questions seemed temporarily of less significance than this, he gave his support to Bryan in the election of 1900. But in none of these cases did he ever stultify himself by saying a word in favor of any part of the platform which was not in harmony with his own judgment. Of course all this should have left him wholly without influence on public opinion, according to ordinary party theories; but the fact of political history is that throughout his public career there was

no man in the land whom political committees were more anxious to put on the stump in behalf of their candidates than Carl Schurz. Keen insight, high ideals, moral fervor, strict adherence to fundamental principles, and absolute freedom from partisan shackles, were his distinguishing characteristics. Of course, even this cannot guarantee absolute inerrancy of judgment; but it would be hard to find any combination of qualities calculated to leave a record to which posterity will turn with more unflinching respect and less necessity for apologies.

We are glad to notice in the preface of this volume an implied promise of further publications. It is well known that the epistolary correspondence of Mr. Schurz was enormous. This must have a high value both personally and historically, since he had among his correspondents many of the most prominent men of his time, and made constant use of the private letter as an indirect means of influencing public opinion on questions of the day. Letters of this latter sort are doubtless amply numerous for separate publication, and we would suggest to his literary executors the propriety of presenting them in this way, thus giving the more personal correspondence a better chance to impress upon the reader the more intimate *personal* characteristics of a man whose charming personality had no opportunity to make itself known to more than a small fraction of those who knew and admired him in his public career.

W. H. JOHNSON.

THE fourteenth annual meeting of the Central Division of the Modern Language Association of America was held at the Northwestern University Building, Chicago, late in December. English, Germanic, and Romance philology received each its proportion of attention. Among the more noteworthy contributions to accurate scholarship was a collection of new source-material relating to the liturgic Easter drama, made by Professor Neil C. Brooks of the University of Illinois. Professor Brooks threw much new light upon the *mise en scène* of the liturgic plays, and brought new evidence to bear upon the question of the relations between the early drama and pictorial art. Professor Weeks's discussion of the Boulogne manuscript of the "Chevalerie Vivien" was in line with his previous studies. Professor Beatty's discussion of the Resuscitation Motive in popular literature, Mr. Fortier's brief survey of certain departments of French literature in Louisiana, and Professor Brown's Irish parallels to the Bleeding Lance of the Grail Legend, were all of particular interest. As business of special interest, should be mentioned a report from the Committee on the Photographic Reproduction of Early Texts, and the organization, during the session, of an Illinois Branch of the American Folk-lore Society, with Professor A. C. L. Brown as President and Dr. H. S. V. Jones as Secretary and Treasurer.

RECENT FICTION.*

It is several years since we have had a novel by Mr. Mallock, whose pen has been chiefly busied with exposing the fallacies of socialism, or revealing the underlying antinomies of current doctrine in science, philosophy, and religion. That the hand of the novelist has not, however, lost its cunning, becomes sufficiently evident by the time we have read fifty pages of "An Immortal Soul." The story thus alluringly entitled opens engagingly upon an English country scene, and soon finds us deeply interested in a social group which has for its principal figures the local clergyman, the returned traveller who is standing for Parliament, a famous specialist in nervous diseases, and a young girl who is clearly intended to be the heroine. The elderly traveller finds in her more than a passing attraction, and the clergyman, who has marked her for his spiritual child, and whose sub-consciousness views her in a more human light, finds his influence weakened, and his hardly formulated hopes threatened by the advent of the stranger. Thus far, we are dealing with a novel simply, finished in style and description, admirable in invention and characterization. But the author's "affair" has a much wider scope than this, and he no sooner gets us thoroughly interested in his heroine and her associates than he approaches his special problem, which is that of diagnosing a case of dual personality. For one day his heroine is spirited away, and a young woman reputed to be her sister appears in her stead. The delicate and spiritually-minded Vivian gives place to Enid, who appears as a girl of sensual disposition, cunning in deception, and instinctively vicious. For a time we take her to be in reality another person, but at last it appears that she represents the temporary emergence of another personality; and that from childhood Vivian and Enid have alternated the tenancy of the same body. Even physically, the change is sufficient to deceive, and Mr. Mallock contrives to surmount this crucial difficulty of his task. The eminent specialist is the only one who

has all the facts in his possession, and to him the girl's dual nature becomes a study of absorbing interest. From about the middle on, the book becomes essentially a scientific treatise, and elaborate discussion figures more and more largely in its pages. Yet even this discussion is so fitted into the novelistic machinery that both human and dramatic interest are fairly well preserved throughout. The chief element of this interest is provided by the impact of the revelation upon the clergyman, who finds that he must reckon with facts hitherto undreamed of in his philosophy, and who feels the very foundations of his belief tottering beneath him. He becomes perplexed in the extreme when he is forced to realize that this "immortal soul" which has been the object of his special solicitude is in reality a two-fold thing, and that its one aspect is as abhorrent to him as its other is appealing. Which of the two is the real woman, the spiritual individuality? The theory of possession sustains him for a time, but even that has to be abandoned in the light of a complete record of the girl's history, which makes it clear that her evil nature is, on the whole, the more predominant and masterful of the two. Mr. Mallock offers us no solution of the problem he has propounded. Science is not yet prepared to solve it, or to suggest a reconciliation between such phenomena and the older doctrines of psychology and religion. The subject is one after the author's heart, and he has never played more brilliantly his favorite rôle of the destructive critic. All his life he has been pointing out the logical defects in systems of thought that seem superficially coherent, and in the present instance, although his form is that of fiction, he has given us one of the keenest and most merciless of his many analyses. Readers who do not expect this sort of thing in a novel may well complain that he does not play the game, and will be justified if their quest is for entertainment only. But if they are sufficiently serious of mind to enter into the spirit of the author's speculations, they will give, if anything, a more absorbed attention to his psychological discussion than to the fictive framework in which it is set.

A romance of Napoleon and Nelson, and of the projected invasion of England in 1805, written in a style as choppy as the waves of the Channel which baffled the conqueror's ambition, is given us by Mr. Alfred Ollivant in the merry invention which he has labeled "The Gentleman." There are some four hundred pages of staccato sentences, chronicling the events of about ten days, and things are happening all the time. The happenings, moreover, are of the most exciting nature, whether by sea or by land, and someone is in mortal peril every hour. There are several heroes, including the "gentleman," who is an Irish soldier of fortune acting as Napoleon's lieutenant, the midshipman (aged fifteen) who saves his country by ingenious and heroic devices, and the fighting parson whose death-dealing sword causes countless Frenchmen and traitors to bite the dust. The story turns about a plot to

* AN IMMORTAL SOUL. By W. H. Mallock. New York: Harper & Brothers.

THE GENTLEMAN. A Romance of the Sea. By Alfred Ollivant. New York: The Macmillan Co.

THE WAR IN THE AIR. By H. G. Wells. New York: The Macmillan Co.

THE DISTRIBUTORS. By Anthony Partridge. New York: The McClure Co.

CAPTAIN MARGARET. A Romance. By John Massfield. Philadelphia: The J. B. Lippincott Co.

THE DEVIL'S PULPIT. By H. B. Marriott Watson. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

THE FLY ON THE WHEEL. By Katherine Cecil Thurston. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

ROSE-WHITE YOUTH. By Dolf Wylarde. New York: John Lane Co.

IN CALVERT'S VALLEY. By Margaret Prescott Montague. New York: The Baker & Taylor Co.

THE FAIR MISSISSIPPIAN. By Charles Egbert Craddock. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co.

BARRY GORDON. By William Farquhar Payson. New York: The McClure Co.

KINCAID'S BATTERY. By George W. Cable. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

kidnap Nelson, through the double dealing of Lady Hamilton, and the author prudently appends to the tale a declaration to the effect that he will answer no questions concerning it. The characterizations are extraordinarily vivid, and this is a remarkable feature when we consider the variety of types presented. There are a great many horrors on exhibition, and they are depicted with relentless realism, but they are also softened by an infusion of sentiment that makes them endurable, and they often become almost beautiful in the poetic light of the author's imagination. The spirit in which this work is conceived is made clear by the verses on "Our Sea" which serve as a preface. It is the spirit of invincible pride in the deeds of English seamen from the days of Drake to the days of Nelson, and the story itself reveals the composite inspiration of such diverse novelists as Marryatt and Kingsley and Blackmore, such diverse poets as Mr. Newbolt and Mr. Kipling and Mr. Swinburne.

"The War in the Air" is a forecast of the development of aerial navigation which is extremely vivid, as are all of Mr. Wells's imaginings, and not so far removed as most of them have been from what we may admit to be possible. The air-ship is certain to be used for military purposes in the next chapter of warfare, and will doubtless bring with it new possibilities of destruction. Mr. Wells makes of it a terrible instrument indeed, and describes its operations with a degree of technical realism that gives us a shuddering anticipation of what may happen when this new menace to civilization is developed only a little more than at present. Unlike most writers of fiction who allow their imagination to revel in deadlier means of destruction than those heretofore available, Mr. Wells does not assume that the common sense of mankind will abandon warfare when it comes to mean annihilation, but pictures for us an increased frenzy of strife which does not cease its fury until civilized society is blotted from the earth's surface, and what is left of mankind reverts to primitive conditions of savagery. Civilization suffers final collapse as a logical consequence of its own ingenious refinements, and the thought that it bears within its bosom the seeds of its own destruction is strongly impressed upon us. The protagonist of this world-tragedy is no heroic figure, but simply the sort of average cockney Englishman who has before served as the medium of the author's social satire. All the amazing things that happen in the book are exhibited in their reflection in the consciousness of this pitiful example of humankind, and this proves the most effective part of the author's realistic machinery.

"The Distributors," by Mr. Anthony Partridge, is a choice tale of a group of men and women, of the highest rank in English society, who, having exhausted all the obvious pleasures of life, resort to the unlawful in their quest for new sensations. They form a coterie known as the "Ghosts," ostensibly for the discussion of esoteric philosophies, but actually for the purpose of planning and executing what we

may call high-class burglaries. Their victims are the selfish rich, who possess more jewels than is good for them, and the loot, when converted into money through the agency of a mysterious "fence" — as free from selfish motives as the "Ghosts" themselves — is bestowed anonymously upon various charities. All goes well with their plans until an American girl, piqued because her request to be made a member of the exclusive coterie is denied, and knowing nothing of the criminal side of their activity, sets a detective on their track, and uncovers things of which she had not dreamed. The exposure is averted by an appeal to her generosity, the society goes out of existence, and the most conspicuous of its members surprises himself by falling in love, which for him, at least, makes the further quest of illicit sensations quite unnecessary. There are numerous thrills in the fantastic romance, and much sprightliness of dialogue. The author of the "New Arabian Nights" would have found in Mr. Partridge a kindred spirit.

"Captain Margaret," by Mr. John Masefield, is a romance of adventure in Virginia and on the Spanish main, the action being placed in the late seventeenth century. Charles Margaret is the commander of a ship equipped by certain London adventurers for trade with the colonies. He is also a man with a broken heart, for the woman whom he loves has taken to herself a husband, and has been so deceived in the bargain that she mistakes a selfish brute of criminal instincts for a hero to be worshipped. Now it so happens that just as Captain Margaret is setting sail for America, this woman and her husband take refuge upon the ship, for the man has been guilty of forgery, and the officers of the law are hot in pursuit. The voyage is a long one, but not long enough to open the woman's eyes, either to the true character of her husband, or to the unselfish devotion of Captain Margaret. Then follow several chapters of a sojourn in Virginia, and a second hasty escape when the Governor receives orders from England to arrest the fugitive. The final episode is an expedition to the Isthmus in search of treasure, including a highly graphic account of the sacking of one of the Spanish settlements. When the fugitive is dastardly enough to seek to betray his rescuers into the hands of the enemy, even his wife realizes a situation long before apparent to everyone else, and is not altogether heart-broken when he meets the fate he so richly deserves. Whereupon Captain Margaret comes into his own. It is a leisurely tale, but there is a great deal of life in it, and it is informed by the spirit of genuine romance.

Curiously enough, "The Devil's Pulpit," which is also the tale of a semi-piratical expedition in search of treasure, is provided with a heroine by a device similar to that adopted by the author of "Captain Margaret." But this time the heroine is a girl, and it is in the company of her uncle, an absconding French banker, that she seeks refuge on the ship just as it is leaving England. The ship is sent out

by a syndicate, acting upon the information conveyed by a mysterious chart of the kind familiar to all readers of tales concerning treasure-seekers. Its destination is somewhere in the West Indies, and the ship's company, crew and owners alike, constitute a motley and picturesque assemblage of ruffians. Of course, there is a hero who saves the situation when matters become critical, and there are a few other decent fellows to stand by him. Equally of course, the treasure is found, the ruffians discomfited, and the affections of the heroine properly bestowed. As contrasted with "Captain Margaret," this romance is modern, and its exciting happenings are conceived in the spirit of comedy, commingled with melodrama. Mr. H. B. Marriott Watson is the writer, and we all know how inventive he can be, and with what high spirits he can carry his action through.

Mrs. Thurston's "The Fly on the Wheel" is a simple story of Irish life and character, admirable in its fidelity to fact, and incisive in its delineation of middle-class character. The parish priest, the wife and mother of domestic instincts, her shrewish sister, the busybodies and gallants of the town, are all put before us in natural and life-like guise. And then, upon this *bourgeois* background is projected a great passion, which shipwrecks a family's happiness, and brings the heroine to suicide. This heroine is a young woman whose career is shaped rather by instinct than reason, and 'for whom the moral obligations upon which society is based have no effective influence. Returning home from her French convent, she falls in love with a staid man of affairs, the head of a peaceful household, and her infatuation makes him for a time forgetful of his honor. His life hitherto has been one of self-repression, and the impulses she evokes get the better of him. It seems to be a case of opposite electric charges, needing only contiguity to effect a union. In her case, it is the longing for ease and luxury; in his, it is the craving for a richer life. These motives, acting in connection with a strong element of sensual allurements, prove the complete undoing of the woman, and the all but complete ruin of the man. It is the parish priest who interposes, and, by a few fitly-chosen words of admonition, halts the man's steps upon the brink of the precipice. The story is strong, but not altogether agreeable.

The heroine of "Rose-White Youth" is fifteen, and she dies of a broken back (supplemented by a broken heart) on her sixteenth birthday. The man in the case is a bronzed explorer, known to scientific fame, a guest of her family at their country house. It is a wretched misunderstanding that causes him to misjudge her, and it is not cleared up (for the girl) in time to save her from that last reckless ride along the cliff. The tragedy of her taking-off is singularly wanton, and we cannot quite forgive the author for thus shaping the story. For Betty is a nice girl with long red hair (mentioned upon nearly every page), and her youth does not prevent her from being a highly attractive heroine. This story is

the work of "Dolf Wyllarde," and is marred by the frequent employment of sensual suggestion, a fault which has marked the earlier books of this writer, seeming to indicate an inherent vulgarity of mind.

"In Calvert's Valley" is a story of the mountains of West Virginia, introducing us to much the same types of scenery and character as those of which Mr. John Fox makes the substance of his novels. Miss Montague has neither the humor nor the dramatic incisiveness of the writer with whom her work is thus inevitably brought into comparison, but she tells an effective story in her more leisurely way. Page Emlyn, a young business man from Cincinnati, comes to the Valley, and is at once involved in a tragedy. He is led to believe that, in the semi-consciousness of intoxication, he has pushed James Calvert over a cliff to his death. Meanwhile, the young woman with whom Calvert was in love is led to believe that her rejection of his advances has impelled him to suicide. Presently, these two young persons, each bearing a secret burden of imagined guilt, learn to love one another. The outcome remains long in suspense, and there are many searchings of conscience on both sides before the accidental nature of Calvert's death is revealed, and all ends happily for hero and heroine. The whole story is conscientious rather than brilliant, but it sustains a reasonable degree of interest throughout, and is clearly the product of close observation of the mountain folk and the mountain setting.

It is natural to turn from this novel to "The Fair Mississippian," which is Miss Murfree's latest production. But Miss Murfree seems to have abandoned her mountaineers of late, and with this defection to have lost much of the singular power displayed in her earlier books. The present story, although it shows intimate acquaintance with its plantation scene, must be described as essentially commonplace. It is, moreover, so weighed down with irrelevant description and incident that the action drags, and the critical situations miss much of the effectiveness that might have been given them. We can find in this work little indication of the grip upon character which the writer once had, and still less of the flash of poetic imagination which used to light up her tales of the Great Smoky Mountains. The hero is a young man of fine education and broken fortune, who becomes the tutor of three boys on a Mississippi plantation. The excitement is furnished (in diluted form) by an attack of river-pirates, and by the antics of a ghost. The ghost turns out to be a member of the household, and his prowlings are concerned with the hiding of certain documents which affect the ownership of the estate. The chatelaine of the plantation is a creature of the most radiant beauty, in consequence whereof the tutor falls in love with her, and the fact that she is ten years his senior is not permitted to interfere with the conventional romantic outcome.

The development of ancestral qualities, inherited from a long line of Virginian forbears, is the psy-

chological problem worked out in Mr. Payson's story of "Barry Gordon." These qualities include masterful energy, unregulated character, and a strong disposition to over-indulgence in drink. We first meet Barry as a schoolboy, reckless but engaging, and knowing little of his inheritance. Summoned to his home in Virginia, he finds his father at the point of death, and learns from his lips the burden of the family heredity. The knowledge sobers him, and does much to develop his manhood, but we feel that he will have a hard struggle to win victory over his unruly self. A period of life in New York follows, which comes to a dramatic climax one evening when he yields to temptation, becomes intoxicated, and is disgraced in the eyes of his friends. For his own good, his guardian cuts off his income, and he sets out to make his way in the world. A long period of wandering in many quarters of the globe gives him self-discipline, and saves his character from wreck. A final episode discovers him engaged in a wild adventure in Morocco, where his brother, a civil engineer, has been held captive. He effects his brother's rescue by deliberately offering his own life in exchange. Fortunately, this ultimate sacrifice is not required, but his willingness to make it shows how complete is the work of regeneration. In the end, his victory is crowned by the love of the woman whom he has worshipped, afar and hopelessly to his seeming, through all the years of exile. It makes a stirring tale, effectively told, and fine in its idealism.

Mr. Cable's new novel is called "Kincaid's Battery," and is a story of New Orleans in the first years of the Civil War. History plays but a small part in it, however, and the interest is essentially private. We cannot describe it as a successful work of fictive art. Mr. Cable's style is as charming as ever, and his power of characterization remains considerable, but he has so succumbed to the temptations of the allusive manner that nothing which may be called straightforward remains to his narrative. The effort needed to make out the pattern of his plot is greater than may legitimately be required of the reader, who is likely to get from it only vivid bits of color set in relief upon a nebulous background. For example, an early chapter is entitled "One Killed," and we are not sure, after reading it, who is killed, or why. Indirection carried to this extent becomes a literary vice, and all the author's charming geniality cannot atone for such a neglect of the story-teller's primary duty. The love story which drags through the four hundred pages is one of the most exasperating we have ever encountered, made so by the extraordinary and unnatural effort on the part of each of the lovers to conceal from the other the state of his affections. A certain amount of misunderstanding and playing at cross-purposes is quite proper as a means of holding the reader's interest in suspense, but the device is absurdly overworked in the present instance.

WILLIAM MORTON PAYNE.

BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS

Evidences of life on the red planet.

Two years ago there appeared Mr. Percival Lowell's exceedingly attractive book on "Mars and its Canals." This was so exhaustive in its treatment of the author's observations and his deductions from them that one is at first surprised at the appearance of a new work on Mars from the same pen, after so short an interval. The title of the new contribution to Martian literature is "Mars as the Abode of Life" (Macmillan). Two years ago Mr. Lowell delivered a series of eight lectures at the Lowell Institute, in which he set forth his views as to planetary evolution in general and illustrated them by the example of the ruddy planet. These lectures were subsequently published in the "Century Magazine," and are now republished, with some revision, in book form. The author accepts the planetesimal theory of the origin of the solar system; from this starting point a planet, when it becomes sufficiently cool to be provided with water, begins to develop the lowest forms of life; these, increasing in complexity as the process of evolution goes on, finally find issue in rich flora and fauna such as our earth possesses. As the surface of the planet loses its original heat the warmth necessary to varied manifestations of life is derived from the sun, which now becomes dominant in the production and preservation of life. Man appears, and brain begins to be a factor of the greatest significance. But the reign of brain cannot be so complete as to arrest the chain of changes due to the sun's action. The oceans begin to disappear, and the air to decrease in density; extensive deserts come into being; the inhabitants dig canals to utilize to the utmost the failing resources of water. In such a state as this Mr. Lowell believes the planet Mars now to be; the "canals" seen there he thinks to be evidences of the handiwork of intelligent beings. He foresees the time when, on account of the loss of the supply of water on our neighbor, life will become extinct there; this doom foreshadows that of man on the earth. For the earth slowly but surely is following the path which Mars is pursuing. The foregoing theory is elaborated by the author with the wealth of language, aptness of illustration, and power of exposition, manifested in his many preceding writings. The book closes with sixty-odd pages of notes of a mathematical character, which are for the enlightenment of astronomers. The outward appearance of the book is as delightful to the eye as its subject matter is to the mind.

Ian Maclaren portrayed by a fellow Scotsman.

The best ministers of religion are very much else besides. So much was there to the late Dr. John Watson ("Ian Maclaren") as man and author and humorist that the biographer might well despair of presenting any full and satisfactory likeness of him between the two covers of a book. Dr. W. Robertson Nicoll, in prefacing his life of his old friend—

"Ian Maclaren": The Life of the Rev. John Watson, D.D." (Dodd, Mead & Co.)—acknowledges the difficulty of his task, but assures the reader that there is nothing in the book that is not strictly true and based on indisputable authority. Also, he has wisely allowed his friend to exhibit his own character and his own opinions as far as possible in letters and other writings of his own. The coöperation of Dr. Watson's son, Mr. Frederick W. Watson, is an additional voucher for the authenticity of the volume. Among other things to be noted in reading the book are the suddenness and unpreparedness with which young John Watson, at the close of his university course at Edinburgh, received his father's behest that he should enter the church; the zeal with which he threw himself into the work after some five years of preparation; the account of his literary work, which one might wish fuller and longer; the description of his three visits to America; the extraordinary and militant patriotism which he, a minister of the gospel of peace, displayed on the outbreak of the Boer War; and the very engaging picture of him as a member of society and an unrivalled teller of good stories. One is not surprised to read his own assertion that he knew not a word of the language of the church when he was called upon to become a preacher, and that he never really acquired its accent even after he had familiarized himself with its language. Dr. Nicoll has, acceptably enough, put something of himself into his book, as well as a good deal of "Ian Maclaren." It is all highly interesting and worth reading; but does not, for some reason, have that indescribable quality of the "inevitable," the best possible, the complete and final, which the greatest biographies seem to possess. Perhaps the subject was too difficult, too Protean, too impossible to master.

President Eliot on university administration.

That any treatment of a topic so professionally close to his interests by so recognized a leader of academic thought as President Eliot will be received with widespread and keen attention is obvious. President Eliot delivered the Harris lectures for 1908 at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., and selected for his topic the problems arising from the career in which he is about to complete his fortieth year of service. These lectures, now reprinted (Houghton Mifflin Co.), form a serviceable statement of the several constituent factors that make the American University and its administration distinctive, complex, and engrossing. To the interested outsider, and particularly, it may be surmised, to the foreign student of American institutions, the volume will prove helpful. The style is direct, terse, orderly, trenchant; and thus reflects the clear-minded executive. Having chosen so objective, almost detached, a point of view, President Eliot has accomplished his purpose with the success belonging to poise, insight, experience. Also, as was inevitable, are there many forcible opinions scattered through the descriptions of the status quo. Yet while it may

appear ungracious to find fault with the author for not doing what he did not set out to do, the regret is too keen, and too close at hand to be suppressed, that the venerable president of Harvard University did not choose to take the public into his confidence, and write with less reserve, substituting analysis and criticism for mere description, and thus making available the vast resources of wisdom to justify policy and action, which he more than any other has at command. A volume not so able, doubtless, yet serving adequately the same purpose, could have been written by any one of a score of University presidents. The volume that President Eliot alone could have written is the source of regret,—one that might have really discussed the vital issues upon which not practice alone but sound policy must in the future be based.

The latest hero of the nations.

"William the Conqueror and the Rule of the Normans," by Mr. Frank Merry Stenton, M.A., late Scholar of Keble College, Oxford, is volume No. 43 of the "Heroes of the Nations" series (Putnam). This is one of the more serious biographies in a series whose authors are not quite at one in their methods of treatment; which fact does not prevent its being extremely readable, as well as valuable in content. An elaborate Introduction makes it clear that the native government lost control because it was utterly inadequate to the task of governing, and that the Normans did more in a generation than their predecessors had done in a century toward unifying the social customs of England. The concluding chapter, which deals with the Domesday Book, is a notably thoughtful piece of work. The general reader will probably be somewhat startled to learn that this remarkable fiscal census, although it "may claim to rank as the greatest record of mediæval Europe," is based on earlier apportionments which are evidently arbitrary and far from accurate, so that "a fiscal arrangement which can be traced back to the time of Alfred" was still "utilized in the days of Richard I. and Hubert Walter." The secret of William's success seems to have been largely the tact that taught him to keep his hands off. The volume is elaborately equipped with charts and maps, and represents original investigation of much value.

The origin and growth of American polity.

In a handy volume of three hundred pages, entitled "Ideals of the Republic" (Little, Brown, & Co.), Dr. James Schouler has collected a dozen chapters—based on "occasional lectures given by the author in 1906-8 at the Johns Hopkins University, to close a connection of seventeen years with its Historical Department"—whose purpose is "to trace out those fundamental ideas, social and political, to which America owes peculiarly her progress and prosperity, and to consider the application of those ideas to present conditions." He begins with a chapter on "The Rights of Human Nature," and discusses the historic assertion of our Declaration,

"That all men are created equal," etc. A not very convincing defense is made of this remarkable pronouncement; it amounts in brief to this, that in personal and civic rights all men stand on a level. "Types of Equality" is the heading of the next chapter, which considers, without offering any new solution, the problem of alien races within our borders. Discussions of such subjects as civil rights, government by consent, written constitutions, parties and party strife, and servants of the public, succeed one another, with the due and expected exhibition of ripe scholarship, but with little of a new, striking, or unusually important nature. Perhaps the topics selected hardly admit of very original treatment; and doubtless, too, the printed page is not so favorable a medium for these lectures as was oral delivery. Somewhat remarkable, however, and having a note almost of prophecy in it, is the following passage from the author's presidential address before the American Historical Association in 1897. The address itself, or rather a part of it, under the title "A New Federal Convention," closes the volume. "In no respect, as it seems to me," says Dr. Schouler, "is it plainer that more than our present bare majorities of a quorum should be required, than in such momentous legislation as disturbs our national equilibrium by admitting new States into the Union or by sanctioning the acquisition of alien territory with an alien population. In the latter respect we seem simply to have gone forward without clear warrant from our Federal charter at all." Safe, sane, and scholarly are the proper adjectives to apply to the book as a whole.

*A reader's
vade-mecum.*

To young readers and to old readers, rather than to readers half-way between, books on reading and the choice of books are often peculiarly attractive. Middle-aged bookmen are commonly too busy, either in reading books or in writing books, or both, to let their thoughts dwell expectantly on a paradise of books that lies in the radiant future, or to linger in fond retrospect on an Augustan age of books that has its place in the golden past. "Books and Reading" (Baker & Taylor Co.), compiled by Messrs. Roscoe Crosby Gaige and Alfred Harcourt, is an excellent collection of essays and fragments from the great bookmen of modern times — stimulating to the young reader and full of pleasant memories to the old. The compilers have braved the charge of repetitious platitude and have gathered together "the most human things written about books," no matter if now and then somewhat trite and tiresomely familiar. Of course every reader will take the liberty to say to himself that if he had edited the volume he would have included some things omitted, and omitted some things included. Among the more conspicuous omissions is Richardson's "Choice of Books," a veritable little classic of its kind, which might well have contributed one brief chapter at least. Of less important exclusions may be noted Willmott's "Pleasures of Literature,"

which went through five editions between 1851 and 1860, was at least five times issued in German, and has lately been republished in this country. The compilers' acknowledgments include one to the publishers of T. B. Pond's (meaning J. B. Pond's) "Eccentricities of Genius"; but neither in the index nor in the table of contents nor in the body of the book do we discover any trace of the genial Major. The book is one of the handiest and usefulest and most attractive of such manuals.

*Sixteenth
century French
portraits.*

Miss Edith Sichel has added to her studies on the French women of the sixteenth century a volume on "The Later Years of Catharine de' Medici" (Dutton). In it she gives the history of the religious wars by sketching the portraits of the principal personages of the period, emphasizing by anecdotes, which are often of unusual interest, their individual characteristics. Much of the material has been drawn from contemporary memoirs and *Archives curieuses*. At times the reader may feel that the portraits would have gained in significance if the background of conditions and tendencies in politics and literature had been drawn with greater fulness. The chapters on Charles IX. and Queen Margot possess a special interest, partly because their history is less familiar, but mainly because their characters were so strangely complex. In describing her personages the author seems occasionally to force the note and to go beyond the evidence of her documents. One becomes a little skeptical in regard to her accuracy when she repeatedly dates the peace of Amboise in 1562. In dealing with the marriage negotiations of 1565 between Catharine, in behalf of the boyish Duke of Anjou, and Queen Elizabeth, it is as a woman rather than as an historian that the author records Elizabeth's age, stating that she was twenty-five, although she was born in 1533. The volume is enriched with prints taken from the great Paris collections. The bibliography should have mentioned the new "Histoire de France," edited by Lavissee, for the volume on this period is done with masterly skill.

*The old mystery
of the Bourbons.*

The latest addition to the Louis XVII. mystery is a volume entitled "The Little Dauphin," written by Miss Catherine Welch, and published by Messrs. Scribner's Sons. It would seem that a problem which, beginning with the "Question importante sur la Mort de Louis XVII.," has called forth more than a thousand printed solutions and even maintained several monthly periodicals, would be pretty thoroughly threshed out by this time. The new book claims to be a distinct addition to the literature on the subject, not because it contributes additional information, — it is for the most part merely a repetition of matter that can be found in other easily accessible volumes, — but because it offers no solution at all, simply a catalogue of the solutions that other writers have concocted or preserved. The book is bright and eminently readable; the author

has steeped herself so thoroughly in the work of the magical historical "restorer" Lenôtre that she has caught a little of his wizardry. Notable illustrations are the famous Thackeray picture supposed to represent the Little Dauphin, now in the possession of Lady Ritchie, and the hitherto unpublished portrait of the pretender Naundorff, from the collection owned by M. Foulon de Vaulx.

A Shelley translation from Plato.

The "Symposium" is considered the most perfect in form of the Platonic dialogues, and also one of the profoundest and most suggestive in its thought and speculation. Shelley's translation of it is regarded as one of the best examples of his prose style. Under the title, "The Banquet of Plato," this translation appears in a limited edition from the Riverside Press (Houghton Mifflin Co.), beautifully printed from Montaigne type on Batchelor hand-made paper, and bound in plain boards, with paper label. It was in the summer of 1818 that Shelley, then at the Baths of Lucea, occupied his mornings for nine or ten successive days in turning this dialogue on love (the only one besides the "Phædrus" that discusses the theme in detail) into English. The subject was congenial, and his love of Greek and familiarity with it, combined with his intuitive sympathy with literary genius wherever found, made the task of translation a light one. His version is skilful and fluent, and is perhaps even above the Platonic level in nobility of expression. But while it well catches the spirit, it is not always accurate in the letter; for which, of course, Shelley has long since been forgiven. The external appearance of the present reprint is in every way worthy of the text.

NOTES.

Mr. J. C. Snaith, author of "William Jordan, Jr.," has a new novel ready for immediate publication.

Mr. William de Morgan's new book, "Blind Jim," is now ready for the printer, but will not be brought out until next Spring.

A new book by Mrs. Jennette Lee, author of "Uncle William," will appear this month. The new book is called "Simeon Tetlow's Shadow."

A new volume (the third) in the "Cambridge History of English Literature" will appear this month. Its subject is "The Renaissance and the Reformation."

Mr. John Reed Scott, author of "The Colonel of the Red Huzzars" and "The Princess Dehra," has written a new novel, to be published in the Spring, under the title, "The Master of Fairlawn."

Mr. H. C. Chatfield-Taylor, author of the standard biography in English of Molière, has written a novel dealing with the early life and love affairs of the great French dramatist. The book, entitled "Fame's Pathway," will appear in March.

When the Pennells' "Life of Whistler" was first brought out it was the understanding, both in London and Philadelphia, that the work would be limited to the original edition, but the demand for the book has been so unexpectedly large that arrangements have

been made for another impression. The American publishers announce that the new edition will be ready immediately. It will contain all the original plates and reproductions.

Last Spring Professor J. B. Bury of Cambridge was the guest of Harvard University, where he delivered the Lane Lectures. The substance of these lectures has been incorporated into a book entitled "The Ancient Greek Historians," which the Macmillan Co. will publish this month.

"Balthazar" (the titular story in a collection of seven) and "The Well of St. Clare" are two new volumes in the English edition of the writings of M. Anatole France, now in course of publication by the John Lane Co. Mrs. John Lane translates the former of these volumes, while we owe the latter to Mr. Alfred Allenson.

Mr. J. G. Bartholomew's "Handy Reference Atlas of the World" is now in its eighth edition, imported by Messrs. E. P. Dutton & Co. It is a compact volume, and its maps, although small, are clearly printed and artistically agreeable. They include a large number which give us small areas on a relatively large scale.

Mr. Owen Seaman, editor of "Punch," has collected some forty pieces, mostly of his recent humorous verse, into a volume called "Salvage," which Messrs. Holt will soon publish. As was the case with the author's "A Harvest of Chaff" and "Borrowed Plumes," most of the verses in the new volume first appeared in "Punch."

It is interesting to note, in connection with the recent award of the Nobel Prize for literature, that "Rudolph Eucken's Philosophy of Life," by Professor W. R. Boyce-Gibson, is already in a second edition. Professor and Mrs. Gibson have almost ready for publication in the Spring a translation of Eucken's "The Meaning and Value of Life."

Miss Margaret Symonds's "Days Spent on a Doge's Farm" is, as the publishers say, a book which "makes of every reader a friend." It is now republished by the Century Co. in an enlarged edition, with enough additional illustrations to bring the number close to three-score. The introduction supplied for this new edition takes the form of a memoir of the Countess Pisani, whose country estate is the scene of the volume.

"German Literature in American Magazines, 1846 to 1880" is the title of a monograph by Mr. Martin Henry Haestel now published by the University of Wisconsin. It continues the work of Dr. S. H. Goodnight upon the same subject prior to 1846, published two years ago in the same series. The last year considered by Mr. Haestel is the first year of THE DIAL, and four references are given to our first volume, but curiously enough the only index entry of the periodical refers to the late Moncure Conway's Cincinnati "Dial" of 1860, from which eight articles on German literature are catalogued.

Among the more important books on Messrs. A. C. McClurg & Co.'s Spring list are the following: A history and forecast of the Panama Canal, entitled "The World United," by Mr. John George Leigh, a London engineer and specialist on the canal; "Letters from China," by Mrs. Sarah Pike Conger, wife of the late Minister to China; "The Empire of the East," an illustrated description of Japan, by Mr. H. B. Montgomery; "A Summer in Touraine," a profusely illustrated study of the old chateaux of the Loire, by Mr. Frederick Lees; and "A Summer Garden of Pleasure," by Mrs. Stephen Batson, with thirty-six colored illustrations by Mr. Osmund Pittman.

TOPICS IN LEADING PERIODICALS.

February, 1909.

- Aërial Warfare, Menace of. H. B. Hersey. *Century*.
 Amalfian Cornice Road, The. Arthur Colton. *Putnam*.
 American Art and Its Past. W. L. Price. *Craftsman*.
 American Artists, A Plea for. A. Hoerber. *North American*.
 American Commerce, Extension of. A. L. Bishop. *Atlantic*.
 American Diplomatic Service. Herbert H. D. Peirce. *Putnam*.
 American Marine To-day, The. G. A. Chamberlain. *World To-day*.
 American Riviera, The. Charles F. Holder. *Outing*.
 American Social Life in Illustration. A. Hoerber. *Bookman*.
 Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign, The. O. F. Lewis. *World's Work*.
 Arabian Horse in England, The. David Buffum. *Outing*.
 Armours, The. Arthur Brisbane. *Cosmopolitan*.
 Art Collections of Chicago, Private. G. D'Unger. *World To-day*.
 Art, Modernism in. Christian Brinton. *Putnam*.
 "Bahai Revelation," The. Jean Masson. *Review of Reviews*.
 Banking and Currency Problem. M. W. Hazeltine. *No. Amer.*
 Barnard, George G. M. Twombly and W. Downes. *World's Work*.
 Baudelaire Legend, The. James Huneker. *Scribner*.
 Berlin, Tenements of. Madge C. Jenison. *Harper*.
 Botanists at St. Louis. P. Spaulding. *Popular Science*.
 Broadway's Thousand Miles. A. H. Ford. *World To-day*.
 Broward, Napoleon, Career of. R. D. Paine. *Everybody's*.
 Brunswick, Romantic. R. H. Schaffner. *Century*.
 Caine, Hall, Reminiscences of—VI. *Appleton*.
 Calabrian Disaster, The Latest. W. H. Hobbs. *Popular Science*.
 Camel Experiment, Jefferson Davis's. W. L. Fleming. *Pop. Sci.*
 Canada, Race Prospects in. C. B. Henderson. *World To-day*.
 Caribbean, Our Commerce in the. R. A. Wilson. *World's Work*.
 Cats, The Aristocracy of. Virginia Roderick. *Everybody's*.
 China That Is, The. D. Lambuth. *Review of Reviews*.
 Christianity, The Salvation of. Chas. F. Aked. *Appleton*.
 Church and Social Service. Shailer Matthews. *World To-day*.
 Cleveland the Man. George F. Parker. *McClure*.
 Cliff Dwellers' Club of Chicago. *Bookman*.
 Cotton-Grower's Plight, The. D. J. Sully. *Cosmopolitan*.
 Country Life Commission, The. A. Inkersley. *World To-day*.
 Democracy, The Trend Toward. W. A. White. *American*.
 Desert, Reclaiming the. Forbes Lindsay. *Craftsman*.
 Deserter-Hunting. John S. Wise. *Putnam*.
 Digestion, Young's Observations on. L. B. Mendel. *Pop. Sci.*
 Dime Museum, The. R. L. Hartt. *Atlantic*.
 Dyeing Silk. Charles Pellet. *Craftsman*.
 Educational Emphasis, A Change of. E. A. Birge. *Atlantic*.
 Elliot, George, and Lewes. Lyndon Orr. *Munsey*.
 Emmanuel Movement, Dangers of. J. M. Buckley. *Century*.
 England, The Beaten Track in. W. G. Brown. *Atlantic*.
 English from an American Viewpoint, The. *Scribner*.
 English Spelling, Simplifying. Max Eastman. *No. American*.
 Faerie Queen: Where It Was Written. A. Meynell. *Atlantic*.
 Farm Movement, A Stay-on the. W. P. Kirkwood. *World To-day*.
 Florida, The New. H. N. Casson. *Munsey*.
 Food of the City Worker. Hollis Godfrey. *Atlantic*.
 Fœdian Archipelago, In the. C. W. Furlong. *Harper*.
 German Painting To-day. Christian Brinton. *Scribner*.
 Gothenberg System, The. H. S. Williams. *McClure*.
 Gothic Architecture, Lesson of. E. A. Batchelder. *Craftsman*.
 Greek Marbles, Some Recent Finds in. *Putnam*.
 Hack, The, and his Pittance. John Walcott. *Bookman*.
 Hanks, Nancy. Harriet Monroe. *Century*.
 Hazing, A History of. Harry Thurston Peck. *Munsey*.
 Helena, Queen, Italy's Heroine. *Review of Reviews*.
 House of Representatives' Rules. A. P. Gardner. *No. American*.
 Hysteria and Faith Cures. Pearce Bailey. *Appleton*.
 "Ik Marvel." Joseph B. Gilder. *Review of Reviews*.
 Indians of the Stone Houses. E. S. Curtis. *Scribner*.
 Insurance Legislation, Defective. J. P. Ryan. *North American*.
 Italy's Exhausting Emigration. W. E. Weyl. *Review of Revs.*
 Japan, Southernmost. R. Van V. Anderson. *Popular Science*.
 Jewish History, What is? A. S. Isaacs. *North American*.
 Kaiser, Younger Children of the. Theodore Schwarz. *Munsey*.
 Kipling Poem, The Last. R. D. Pinkerton. *Bookman*.
 Labor and the Railroads. J. O. Fagan. *Atlantic*.
 Life Insurance, Romance of—IX. W. J. Graham. *World To-day*.
 Life on Earth, Origin of. W. Kaempfert. *McClure*.
 Lincoln, George L. Knapp. *Lippincott*.
 Lincoln, An Audience with. T. B. Bancroft. *McClure*.
 Lincoln and Darwin, Emancipators. *Appleton*.
 Lincoln at the Helm. John Hay. *Century*.
 Lincoln Centennial Celebration, The. *Review of Reviews*.
 Lincoln Correspondence. A. W. H. Lambert. *Century*.
 Lincoln-Douglas Debates. Hannis Taylor. *North American*.
 Lincoln, If Russia Had a. E. Tobenken. *World To-day*.
 Lincoln Literature, Old and New. *Review of Reviews*.
 Lincoln, Mrs. Abraham, and Her Friends. W. Steell. *Munsey*.
 Lincoln, Our Heritage in. *World To-day*.
 Lincoln, Recollections of. James G. Wilson. *Putnam*.
 Lincoln, Roosevelt's Tribute to. *Review of Reviews*.
 Lincoln the Leader. Richard Watson Gilder. *Century*.
 Lincoln, What I Saw of. Grenville M. Dodge. *Appleton*.
 Lincoln's, A Letter of. *World To-day*.
 Lincoln's Nomination. Mary King Clark. *Putnam*.
 Lowell, A. Lawrence. F. A. Ogg. *Review of Reviews*.
 Maeterlinck and his Home. A. F. Sanborn. *Munsey*.
 Maine Faces Bitter Facts. Holman Day. *Appleton*.
 Margin Gambling in Wall St. F. S. Dickson. *Everybody's*.
 Messina: A City That Was. H. F. Alexander. *World To-day*.
 Mexico, American Invasion of. E. H. Talbot. *World's Work*.
 Mexico, Legends of the City of. T. A. Janvier. *Harper*.
 Mississippi, A Trip through. B. T. Washington. *World's Work*.
 Modernism. Newman Smyth. *Scribner*.
 Monorail Road for N. Y. F. C. Bryant. *World To-day*.
 Moulton, Louise C., in London. J. B. Rittenhouse. *Bookman*.
 Musical Suggestion. Redfern Mason. *Atlantic*.
 National Academy of Design. G. Edgerton. *Craftsman*.
 National Arts Club of New York. Gardner Teall. *Craftsman*.
 Navy of the Land, Our. G. K. Turner. *McClure*.
 New York at Table. Richard Duffy. *Putnam*.
 Night-riders, The. Edward A. Jonas. *World's Work*.
 Nürnberg, The Spell of. P. Van Alstyne. *Craftsman*.
 Opera and the People. Mary Garden. *Everybody's*.
 Opium, Japan's Crusade against. K. Midzuno. *No. American*.
 Paris, The Dark Side of. Bertha P. Weyl. *World To-day*.
 People's Institute, The. J. Collier. *World To-day*.
 "Pericles." Theodore Watts-Dunton. *Harper*.
 Philippines, American Rule in. W. C. Forbes. *Atlantic*.
 Poe, The Weird Genius. Elizabeth E. Poe. *Cosmopolitan*.
 Population, An Experiment in. Walter Weyl. *Atlantic*.
 Radium and the Earth's Internal Heat. J. Joly. *Harper*.
 Railroad Terminal, The. E. Hungerford. *Harper*.
 Railroads, An Era of Better. C. M. Keys. *World's Work*.
 Religio-Medical Movement. A. McL. Hamilton. *No. American*.
 Renaud, Abbé Maurice. H. C. Finck. *Century*.
 Research, Instruments of. L. A. Bauer. *Popular Science*.
 Rio de Janeiro, Exposition at. R. De C. Ward. *Popular Science*.
 Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. *Review of Reviews*.
 Rockefeller Institute, Work at. B. J. Hendrick. *McClure*.
 Rockefeller, J. D., Reminiscences of—V. *World's Work*.
 Rosebud Reservation, Opening. Lindsay Denison. *American*.
 Rosecrans, The Conference over. E. P. Oberholzer. *Scribner*.
 Saint-Gaudens, The Student. Homer Saint-Gaudens. *Century*.
 Salem Ships and Sailors, Old—XIII. R. D. Payne. *Outing*.
 School, The Choice of a. Frederick Winsor. *Appleton*.
 Sembrich, Marcella, Career of. L. Reamer. *Munsey*.
 Shaler, Nathaniel S., Autobiography of—II. *Atlantic*.
 Shaw, Bernard, Philosophy of. A. Henderson. *Atlantic*.
 Sloan, John, Etchings of. C. R. Barrell. *Craftsman*.
 Slums as a National Asset. C. E. Russell. *Everybody's*.
 Smoke Nuisance and Railroads. C. R. Woodruff. *Pop. Science*.
 Smoke Problem and Government. J. L. Cochrane. *Rev. of Revs.*
 Spain, A Second-class Trip into. E. C. Allen. *Outing*.
 Speech of the Uneducated, Archaic. T. R. Lounsbury. *Harper*.
 Stock Exchange: If It Should Close. J. H. Gannon, Jr. *Appleton*.
 Stockholders of the U. S., Report to. A. W. Page. *World's Work*.
 Tariff, Future of the. R. P. Porter. *North American*.
 Tariff Revision, Perplexities of. A. H. Washburn. *No. Amer.*
 "Tidal Waves" after Earthquakes. T. J. J. See. *Munsey*.
 Treves, Sir Frederick. Wilfred T. Grenfell. *Putnam*.
 Truck Farming in Florida. E. P. Powell. *Outing*.
 Victoria, Queen: An American View. S. C. Stevenson. *Century*.
 Welles, Gideon, The Diary of—I. *Atlantic*.
 White Plague, The Great. C. Harcourt. *Craftsman*.
 Wisconsin University. Lincoln Steffens. *American*.
 Woman's Invasion of the Working World—IV. *Everybody's*.
 Woman's Position—II. Duchess of Marlborough. *No. Amer.*
 Woman's Problem. Annie Nathan Meyer. *Appleton*.
 Women of the West, Pioneer. Agnes G. Laut. *Outing*.
 Yankee Notions, Millions in. G. E. Walsh. *World To-day*.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

[The following list, containing 62 titles, includes books received by THE DIAL since its last issue.]

BIOGRAPHY AND REMINISCENCES.

- William Morris. By Alfred Noyes. 12mo. pp. 156. "English Men of Letters." Macmillan Co. 75 cts. net.
 The Life of James Robertson, Missionary Superintendent in the Northwest Territories. By Charles W. Gordon (Ralph Connor). Illus. 8vo. pp. 403. F. H. Revell Co. \$1.50 net.

HISTORY.

- The Making of Canada.** By A. G. Bradley. Svo. pp. 396. E. P. Dutton & Co. \$3. net.
- The True Story of the American Flag.** By John H. Fow. Illus. in color. Svo. Philadelphia: William J. Campbell. 75 cts. net.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

- On Nothing and Kindred Subjects.** By H. Belloc. Second edition; 16mo, pp. 261. E. P. Dutton & Co. \$1.25 net.
- G. K. Chesterton: A Criticism.** With portraits, 12mo, pp. 272. John Lane Co. \$1.50 net.
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